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## REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

*Wilson's Edition of the Songs of Scotland, as sung by him in his Entertainments on Scottish Music and Song.* Books 1, 2, 3, large folio. Lond. J. Wilson.

*The True Enjoyment of Angling.* By Henry Phillips, Esq. Post 8vo, pp. 138. London, W. Pickering.

We have put our two popular singers, who appear as authors this week, together; not because we feel competent to compose a critical duet out of their works, but merely for the oddity of the coincidence, and as an example to the musical world in general to be alive and stirring.

Wilson's Scottish songs at Store Street, in Hanover Square, and every other place where they have been sung by him, have charmed so many thousand hearers, that it would be absurd to dwell on their merits and attractions. They are models of the style in which our simple ballad and national poetry ought to be accompanied and sung. The former, as is exemplified in the arrangements here given, ought to go no farther than the mere sustentation of the voice—a congenial prelude to attune the soul to the theme, be it merry or sad—and a few chords or single notes struck here and there to aid the vocalist in his sweet or impressive task. The latter, and especially in Scottish song, is thus left free for its own great beauties, sentiment and expression, without which, and overlaid with instrumental flourishes, it is utterly inconsistent, uncharacteristic, and ridiculous. Against all such we are apt to exclaim,

How sour sweet music is when time is broke,  
And no proportion kept!

But in the observance of proportion, Mr. Wilson's skill is great, and it is founded on taste and feeling. His music is enough for his words, and no more; his tones are in unison with their meaning; and he frequently dispenses with accompaniment altogether, in order that the pathos of the poetry may not even be disturbed or weakened by a concord. Hence his universal success, not only with Scotch, but with English, Irish, and foreign auditories. Because he speaks to the hearts of all countries in a common universal language, which would be understood as a pleasure by an Esquimaux or Abyssinian, as well as by a cultivated European.

We rejoice, therefore, that he has been induced to publish a collection of his songs, set to music as he sings them; so that others may follow his example, and in many a social party "refresh the mind of man, after his studies or his usual pain." There are twelve airs in each of these three books; and there are to be twelve more in each of the three which are announced to follow; making in all seventy-two. Of their choice we have every thing to say in praise; for they are a mixture of the comic and the affecting: some are full of pastoral loveliness, and others touch the higher string of those melodies which (since hallowed by adversity) were poured out when Scotland was distracted by a cruel intestine war for a disputed crown. In the series we have thus the varieties of a

peculiar dry humour, of natural description, of romantic attachment, of passionate enthusiasm, of heroic devotedness, and of wailing lament over disappointed hopes and slaughtered kindred.

In publishing, as in singing, Mr. Wilson has imparted to these the one grand quality, without which they were naught, namely, expression—uninterrupted expression; and, as far as they go (for there are very many more as good, though unnoticed, belonging to the Scottish Lyra), they are eminently deserving of public acceptance, as the means for contributing to many a joyous meeting and happy fireside.

Turn we now to Henry Phillips, Esq., whose portrait (rather smeared in execution) adorns his enthusiastic tribute to the art of angling. It consists of a prose-poetic text, a poetic-verified illustration, and the same set to music: the whole being inscribed, as a "bold but trifling effort," to Samuel Cartwright, Esq., whose patronage of the fine-arts and love of music are gratefully recorded in the dedication. This merited compliment is not the less appropriate, as we have heard that the gentleman so distinguished is the fortunate owner of some very pretty fishing on his own estate, where the utmost of kindness and hospitality also await the reception of his chosen piscatory friends. That such enjoyments should inspire the author with a true Watsonian fervour is quite natural; and his style is accordingly of a highly ambitious order. No wonder! The man who could step from behind the lamps of Covent Garden or Drury Lane near midnight of a genial May or hotter June (such as we have had little idea of this year), and find himself within a few hours, about sunrise on the following morning, in a delightful sylvan scene some twenty miles from town, with a silver stream rippling towards old Father Thames, the rod in his hand, and the trout bobbing up their noses, as if saying, "Come, catch me!" without being inspired by the change,—must be himself "transformed into a beast." We have, therefore, much pleasure in recognising and hailing Mr. Phillips' excited emotions and magiloquent phraseology, though we may like to play and sport with them a little, as he would with a four-pound trout, if he had such a monster on his drop-fly at the extremity of his gut. His declared object is to lead brother anglers "from the brook to the easel, from the pencil to his favourite poet, thence to his guitar;" a most righteous attempt, and worthy of all who can paint, and read, and strum the instrument. So far the introduction; but the real business of the volume begins very properly with the word "MARCH," in which month angling asserts its earliest claims; for "March, which summons all nature to dispel her gloomy vapours, warns the fisher also to awake, prepare his snares, his flies and rods, call into action all the plans laid down in dreary winter for the coming spring; his cunning now he can in practice prove. Mark how the trout looks forth with eager eye for the first dainty fly that tempts him. Still he's wary; for 'tis only when the sun peeps out, or a soft west wind comes stealing on, that he's alert; it lasts not, but passes on, and leaves a thrilling chill behind."

Perhaps a cold easterly has succeeded the soft west; but in the mean time,—O lame and impotent conclusion!—the author allows "you three fair brace of trout for your first day's sport." For the home counties and the sluggish streams of the south this may be a triumph of six hours' "toil," viz. a trout an hour; but if one cannot do more than that, we would say to him in the prophetic voice which warned the greatest man of all the world,

"Beware the ides of March!"

The song to succeed may be quoted as a sample of the lyrical division of the work:—

"Is the sun up? is't approach of morn?  
Is it the moon of the cowherd's horn?  
Is't the shepherd's bell which greets mine ear?  
Is't the rustling step of the fawn and deer?  
Is't the dancing stream where the fishes play?  
Or the bracing breath of a young March day?  
Yes, the sun is up, and the fly is out  
That will tempt the eye of a golden trout.  
Let thy skill be good, and thy line be strong,  
And the prey shall be thine, ere the morn be long;  
Yet be cautious, and quick, nor approach too near,  
In this timid and early month of the year.

So arouse thee, be stirring, thy tackle prepare,  
And prove well the strength of each separate snare.  
Then hasten better be wanting a single brace,  
Than harness a fish with a worn-out trace.  
Then may joy, and success, and no ill betide  
The repeat and repose of thy bright fireside."

We may here notice that much of the music is very pretty; and so get on to "spungy April," which, nevertheless, "when well apparel'd, on the heel of limping winter treads." Of this month our author speaks slightly; and draws "odorous comparisons" of what she tempts fashionable folks to do:—

"Now (he saith) does frail April come peeping 'neath her clouds, bursting with promises that seldom are fulfilled; she sporteth with our humour, and seems, as 'twere, to laugh at the temptation oft put forth: thus will she lure the haughty dame to wander in serenity and sunshine, when on a sudden, far removed from home, the o'ercharged vapour of some lurking mist will jeering drive the angered wanderer back, as if in mockery of her conceit. This touches worldly life; those who must dress appear in the last costume, and keep the house, if fashion's not abroad,—while those who joy not as we do, seek shelter from the shower, and back return to home, thinking the seasons altered every year. Poor mortals! that live only for themselves, and so exist in ignorance of our wholesome lives. How different with us! the very spite that seems to thwart her pleasure, gives us new life; each shower calling to existence many thousand beings that furnish the angler's observations."

The "jeering" vapour of some lurking mist is a bold poetical image; as if it were laughing at the poor drenched lady caught by it so far from home without an umbrella to up-hoist or a shop to fly to. This indeed "touches worldly life," and is terribly dangerous to the "last costume," which means the newest spring fashion. But these are poor mortals, mystified and terrified by an April shower. A genuine brother would no more skulk under a hedge or tree for that than he would run home abusing the altered seasons. We have caught many a jolly fish as the rain pattered on the surface of the water, and rendered fishing pro-

ductive in streamless parts, where, without such an adjunct, the finest line and midge-fly might be thrown from morn to night in vain. At the close, however, Mr. Phillips offers an apology, and declares, "I like variety, so give me April!" to which we say Amen, and wish he may get it!

We come to merry May, though it influences our author with a gentle, autumnal sort of melancholy. "Now (he writes) would I sketch my favourite haunts of last spring's rambles: the shady lane, the mill upon the brook, the busy hive that warned my idle curiosity, the rising plant, young avenue of trees, all that I had marked progressing like the spring, and each approaching to perfection, myself alone on the decline, their youth contrasting my increasing age."

Good Mr. Phillips, give not way to such forebodings! We have within a short space heard thee chant "My heart's in the Highlands" with a vigorous enunciation which promises many years of voice to delight others, and of health and strength to enjoy thyself, though not quite in the "May of youth and bloom of lusthood." And what a Sterne-like story he tells in this month, of his cooking two big trouts at a little inn, for a poor mother with two starving children, on their way to Portsmouth to meet a shipwrecked husband and father! No: we beg pardon; this symposium happened in June, a month concerning which we read with astonishment that "the lightning leaves its vapour (gy. vapouring?) to catch a glimpse of it," and "the thunder roars in joy for the event" of its apparition. Then falleth Mr. Phillips into raptures about flowers which he had planted around his "window." His rose "smiles;" his hyacinth proudly waves "its plumage in passing zephyrs, and the language of sweet flowers join in its tide of song"—he almost persuades us that a hyacinth is a bird, and not a blue-bell. But we had better quote the pathetic gastronomic story alluded to under the head of May, but actually taking place, as we have already stated, in June:—

"A circumstance (relates our author in his own inimitable manner) occurred to me in this month that would have been gratifying to any angler. I was on a stream in Hampshire, where midway stands (surrounded by a few houses) a most unpretending village-inn, so trifling, that I do not think the wealth of the whole colony would purchase a respectable farm. At this little place of entertainment I was in the habit, on a very hot day, to get a glass of home-brewed ale, which they vended most excellent. My sport was not so good as usual; *thunder was abroad*, and then the *fish lie scared at the bottom*, and will not notice any thing that passes, *though they die of hunger*. Notwithstanding, I had contrived, in the early part of the day, to take two brace; three of the fish were very fine. I called at this little inn about noon, *very fagged, very hot*, and much disappointed at not having caught more on *apparently so fine a day*. I feared it was *thunder*, and a short time, proved my anticipation to be correct. The sky blackened, and the storm, like a mighty giant, came growling o'er the earth, *threatening all nature with impending ruin*. The birds were silent as the night; the affrighted cattle hastened to each tree or shed that seemed to offer shelter; *the shepherd's dog hung down his tail* [there's a touch of the true pathetic-sublime!], and, with a head bent low, crouched to his well-known master; the vivid lightning flashed, and seemed as 'twere to scan each secret haunt of those that vainly hoped to escape its vigilance; the rain, *as it advanced*, in torrents poured; the river foamed with fear, and

all the horrors of its awful majesty commingled to impress imperious man with his vainboasting and comparative insignificance. [There's a little Hampshire stream for you, in the imagination of a superb writer!] As it happened, though my produce was comparatively small, it proved of far more value than when I frequently boasted more than I could conveniently carry. The storm had driven me into the stone-kitchen of my rural hotel, and I observed a very decently dressed woman seated in the *hollow bench* with two children, their little heads hid in her lap. I imagined them very happy, and observed to mine hostess, how delightful it was to find the peasant so lodged, and resting in a secure and peaceful abode,—how happy they must feel. 'Ah,' she replied, 'they are resting, to be sure, sir, yet are any thing but happy; they have journeyed many miles this hot day, and are on their way to Portsmouth, where the father of those babes is hourly expected to arrive. It appears he has been shipwrecked, and returning in another vessel; they are without money, and I have none to give them; and they have not tasted food since yesterday, and you know, sir, we are too poor to give them relief.' The woman sobbed again as she told me this sad tale. Imagine my delight when I thought of the trout in my basket. [Now for a picture!] Turning up my sleeves I became cook, scaled a brace, prepared them for the fire, and in a short time we were all seated together over our substantial and most dainty dinner, to the astonishment of the mother and the little souls that accompanied her. *It would have made a heart of stone ache to see how they devoured the meal*. On lifting their little heads to look at the stranger I was surprised at their beauty: their eyes were full of tears, yet they were too weak to cry, as though all the energies of the body had been exhausted. The sight altogether overpowered me, and I did not speak till the *repast was nearly ended*. How the poor mother lauded then the angler—how different a gentleman from the haughty overseer, the husband's captain, their landlord! &c. &c.; indeed she could not find sufficient blessings to pour upon my head. They never dined more happily; I never felt such joy. *The remaining brace, and a few shillings I had fortunately with me*, sent them smiling on their route; and it is strangely true, that ever since I have been more successful on that part of the stream than any other, as if in remembrance of the happy circumstance I have just described."

Comment is unnecessary: were there whales in this "part of the stream," we feel confident they would not only nibble, but rise freely and bite boldly, at the charitable and generous angler's now blessed green drake. We find nothing in July to equal this, though it is a splendid month in the author's glowing description:—"July bursts forth in all its panoply of splendour; and the fields are covered with a cloth of gold; the corn-flower and the poppy deck the pattern, and brocade each bank with modest yet most curious harmony, each vying who shall best display the great Inventor, Author, and Designer of it all. Her breath is perfumed as Arabian wind, that scents each bough it passes, turning our barren heaths to beds of roses. The birds sing sweet hosannas on the loftiest trees; the early lark triumphant greets the day, then yields her vespers to the nightingale, whose grateful bosom swells to pour the lay; and listen how it warbles there! \* \* \* In the evening try alternately the coachman and the white moth, using the latter most frequently when quite dark; the wren-tail is an excellent fly, suited to all streams, and admits of a va-

riety of colour, as the green, light brown, &c. &c.; you will frequently find it on long blades of grass, when in all probability it is not in an active state, the sun not having been sufficiently out. I would, however, take one and throw it on the water; if the trout seize it, let it be followed immediately by your artificial resemblance, and you will find the whole stream on the alert: for I have invariably observed, if one fish rises, the others take the hint, imagining some treat in store to please them."

August is chiefly remarkable for being the month in which the author was born, or, as he says, "entered his worldly career;" and his picture of domestic felicity shews how excellent a thing it is to be an angler. "The first step towards being wise, is to know that we are ignorant; and here indeed it was most gloriously illustrated. I will now to the little cottage I have taken near the stream. My wife, and most likely some friends, who have come to greet the anniversary of my birth, and share the next day's pleasure, wait my return. Yes, yonder I see the little parlour-window open, and some one pushes aside the thick-grown jasmine; a waving handkerchief salutes me—another now streams over the first one's head—and now—another! At the door too—oh! glorious! All arrived; and—ah! by Jove, we'll have a merry evening." Bravo! Encore!!

September is a poor go; and so the book ends but poorly, notwithstanding the riches of all the preceding months. As for October, November, December, January, and February, every angler knows they might almost as well be struck out of the year. Mr. Phillips despises even their mention; but considering how gloriously he has sung the other seven, we trust our readers will not think us too econoimistic when we declare our fixed opinion and belief that they never were so sung and so celebrated before, nor are likely ever to be so sung and so celebrated hereafter.

*Baal Durotrigensis. A Dissertation on the ancient Colossal Figure at Cerne, Dorsetshire.* By John Sydenham. 8vo, pp. 65. London, Pickering.

MR. SYDENHAM, favourably known to antiquaries and topographers by his *History of the Town and County of Poole*, has here taken up a curious memorial of a long bygone age, and out of it attempted to shew a distinction between two races, the primal Celts and the Celto-Belgs of Britain. The inquiry possesses much interest, and is ably conducted; and the giant cut on a lofty chalk-hill overlooking Cerne not unworthy to be made the key-stone to the investigation, involving questions relating to the worship of the Serpent and of the Sun. Of this monstrous outline a notion may be formed, when we state that he is 180 feet in height, and his own foot in length 18 feet. The length of the arm is 102 feet, and of the knobbed club which it holds over his head 120 feet; the length of the full face 23½ feet, the nose 6, and the diameter of the eye 2½.

It is not easy to believe, with Dr. Maton, that works of these immense dimensions should be the mere sport of idle soldiers in the neighbourhood of their camps; and we are rather inclined to agree with Hutchins, who considers it to be a representation of the Saxon god Heil, whom Dr. Stukely holds to be identical with the Phœnician Hercules, or Melicartus, the leader of the first colony to Britain, when they came hither for Cornish tin. The doctor farther offers as a conjecture (to the Society of Antiquaries, in 1764), that "the great Bri-

tish king Eli, surnamed Maur and the just, father of Imanuence, king of the Trinobantes and of Casvelan, who fought Cæsar in his British expedition, is intimated in the name they give this figure, Helis. The doctor conjectures this enormous figure of Hercules might be cut by the Britons in compliment to king Eli, on his expelling the Belgæ from that country, and driving them into Ireland, where they took possession of the south part of it, under the name of Firbolgs. The figure might be cut on his being present at the anniversary midsummer games, a name still remaining in Yorkshire from oldest times."

Mr. Sydenham goes on to shew that Serpent-worship, a tradition from the Fall, was the first deviation from primeval religion throughout the world; and hence all reverence to dragons, worms, and other symbols of the evil principle, to which men from fear soon learnt to pray and do homage in unison with, if not in preference to, the principle of good. The rites of ophiolatry were no doubt practised by the earliest inhabitants of our island; and "the gliding king" is a brilliant and poetical figure in our most remote mythology. The serpent's egg, and the jewel in the head of the toad, are but adjuncts; and the Druids themselves were called serpents (*nadredda*, or *adredda*), by the Welsh bards.

On this subject Mr. S. informs us, that "remains of two dracontia, hitherto unnoticed, yet exist within a few miles of Dorchester. One of these, at Little Mayne, about three miles from the town just named, comprises remains of an extensive and interesting character. The stones, which are scattered over several fields, have evidently, in many instances, been removed from their original situation; many have been used in building the farm-house which stands in the midst of them; whilst others have in all probability fallen a sacrifice to the vandalism of road commissioners and contractors. These circumstances, together with the interposition of the farm-house and contingent buildings, interrupt the design of the temple; but there are still sufficient manifestations amply to attest that here was the site of a magnificent dracontium. Many of the stones, of various sizes, lie immediately contiguous to the road from Dorchester to Wareham, and on the south side of it. A complete but small circle may still be found on this spot, composed of ten or eleven stones, all of which still remain, though some of the high ones have been thrown down with violence, and fractured by falling on other stones. This circle, one side of which is somewhat encroached on by the roadside hedge, is about 30 feet in diameter: other stones lying around seem to indicate an exterior circle. These remains are in a fosse, which extends considerably to the S.E., and is traceable for nearly a mile to the N.W., where it is lost in the plantations. It is in some parts about 20 feet deep, with a vallum on each side, and was widened considerably at the spot on which the circle stands. In a field on the other side of the road, to the N.E. of the circle, are many large stones, five of which assume a circular form, but with intervals in which other stones once stood. Round these are still larger stones, probably constituting part of an outer concentric circle; and at some distance to the S.E. are several large stones reared edgewise in a direct line, forming part of an avenue leading to the circles. Slight earthworks are visible in this field. Close to the circle last mentioned, on the N.E., stand the farm-house and yard, beyond which is another close, containing a

straight avenue pointing towards the circles, formed of a shallow fosse with a low vallum on either side, and a considerable number of stones placed on the summits of the valla. Here, also, are further earthworks, and a broad terrace lying on the S.E. of the avenue, and of equal length with it. The other ruined dracontium alluded to lies to the west of Bladgon hill, and to the north of the cromlech (Helston) near Portisham, about six miles south-west of Dorchester. Traces of avenues and circles are still plain; but the hostility which civilisation and population wage against the remains of antiquity has been too successfully carried on, a great number of the stones, some of them of vast size, having been, within the last few years, removed with great labour from the site they occupied, for the double purpose of being appropriated to the repairs of the roads and of leaving the land free for the operations of the plough, so that the actual design and arrangement of the temple cannot be correctly ascertained; much, however, may yet be done by careful examination and patient investigation. Regarding four of these stones yet remaining, standing near each other, a traditionary stanza has been preserved amongst the country people from beyond the memory of man:—

'Jeffrey and Joan,  
And little dog Denty,  
And Eddy alone.'

This dracontium was, probably, dilapidated to some extent when the more recent worshippers of the sun asserted the predominance of their rites, and erected their altar—the cromlech—on the adjoining hill." The dracontia at Abury and Stanton Drew are well known to all.

As the corruption of religious worship increased and extended, the deluge and the ark readily mingled in the creed, and diluvian observances became part of the system. The undulation of water resembles the motion of the serpent, and naturally led to other combinations and allegorical confusion, in which tradition incorporated ophite and diluvian associations. Complex forms of the human body and the serpent or the fish became symbolisable, and mermaids, and syrens, and Medusas, and Oannes (so like unto Jonah and the whale, his three days' copyhold), and Dragons, by degrees overspread the earth, and received the belief and the adoration of mankind.

After this Mr. S. observes:—"The truths of revelation were cast aside for the speculations of a natural theology; and the worship of the sun, the moon, and all the host of heaven—the adoration of the creature instead of the Creator—sprung into existence. This deviation from the primal faith differed, however, so far from those corrupt superstitions to which attention has been yet directed, that whilst its followers regarded the objects of their adoration as the benign sources of good, the votaries of the other creeds sought but to deprecate the powers of evil; and hence we may trace the parentage of that Manichean doctrine which at one time so widely prevailed. It naturally followed that principles so widely different should come into a state of conflict with each other; and we consequently find that continued hostilities prevailed between the followers of the diluvian ophite worship and the votaries of the sun and the host of heaven; and the contests which ensued terminated in the general overthrow of the former. The constant hostility, says Mr. Deane, in every country of the world between the worship of the sun and the

worship of the serpent, would be the natural result of the position which they occupied as the two earliest of superstitions. True religion being obscured (as we have every reason to believe it was), the worshippers of the sun would naturally arrogate to themselves the privileges of the truth; and the fall of man being remembered as the work of the serpent, and the destructive deluge being also attributed to his agency, they would naturally regard the ophites as worshippers of the devil, and feel themselves under a bond of eternal hatred against them. Hence the whole struggle, originating in the aggressions of the worshippers of the sun, and carried on by the retaliation of the worshippers of the diluvian serpent. Tradition is full of their perpetual feuds. They enter into almost every leading fable, are depicted upon some of the most ancient works of art, and are recorded in some of the oldest histories of man."

The combats of Chirshna and Kalinaga the black dragon, of Apollo and Python, of Horus and Aphonis, of Thor and Midgard, of Beowulf and the dracontine fiend of the morass, of Lodbroc and "the snaky dweller of the heath,"—are all proofs of this; and our author instances St. Patrick in Ireland (considered as a monkish impersonation), and a multitude of stories familiar at home to many localities, as variations of the same ever-memorable myth. All this portion of his book is very interesting, as it brings so great a number of these cases into one view. In the end, the *Sun-ites* vanquished the *Serpent-ites*; and this chalk colossus at Cerne is held to be a memorial of their triumph in that part of England, and etymology is evoked to strengthen or demonstrate the hypothesis. He says:—

"The most ancient modes of spelling the name of the place are Kern, Kernel, Kernele. Now the Hebrew word 'keren' [כֶּרֶן], the Arabic 'kern', and the Celtic 'carn'—which language has so many remarkable analogies with the oriental tongues as to indicate a close affinity,—all denote a hill; and this generic term was frequently individually appropriated to elevated sites of peculiar sanctity. It was a name mystically applied to islands; and the Kerne of the ancients, recorded by Lycophron, was certainly our present Cornwall, the only portion then known of the 'sacred island' of Britain. Carnion, in the land of Gilead, is mentioned as the site of a temple of Atergatis, the celebrated compound diluvian-ophite deity of the Philistines. In Isaiah v. 1, the words 'keren ben semen' [כֶּרֶן בֶּן שֵׁמֶן] are translated 'a fruitful hill.' They are literally 'a hill, or horn, the son of fruitfulness.' Vitrina, after mentioning the expositions of this passage given by other commentators, and particularly that of the Chaldee Targum, gives it as his own opinion that by 'keren' [כֶּרֶן] the prophet here intended 'angulum terræ incurvum eminentiore et in longum protensum'—a crooked nook of land, much elevated and stretched out in length. No phrase could possibly more accurately describe the locality under consideration, the site of the colossal figure, the subject of this inquiry; and the conclusion is therefore well warranted, that 'kern' in this instance, as in others, denoted 'the sacred hill.' Such a situation would be peculiarly selected as the site of diluvian rites; and here, accordingly, we may trace, on the summit of the promontory, the evidence of a religious sanctuary, amidst the manifest remains of an extensive settlement of the diluvian-ophite Celts;\*

\* The Egyptian hieroglyphic for the inundation of the Nile.

\* "These remains are of very interesting character and of considerable extent. They consist of circular



whilst at the bottom of the hill is a well, doubtless the ancient scene of some mysterious rites, and regarded even to this day as of peculiar sanctity and virtue. Such sacred fountains are to be met with in all countries, and may all be considered as memorials of the universal regenerating deluge. The second branch of the word Kern-El is neither more nor less than the name of EL, the hero-god of the innovating Magians; the Baal of the idolatrous nations mentioned in Scripture; the Belus of the banks of the Euphrates; the Mithras of Persia; the Apollo of Delphi; the Bacchus and Osiris of the mysteries; the Jupiter, Hercules, Janus, Adonis, Helius, and Esculapius of the Greek and Roman pantheons; the Thammuz of the Phenicians; the Thor of the Edda; the El, Hel, Hagle, Heil, Helith of the northern nations. Now all the most received traditions, and the most ancient notices of this monument, associate it with this god El; and the tradition, previously alluded to as still prevailing at Cerne, describes some severe contest for divine honours having taken place there, in which victory declared on the side of the more modern hierophants."

With this quotation we shall leave the work in the hands of our antiquarian friends, without going into the singular traditions with which the author backs his argument. We shall merely add his conclusion, that the aboriginal Serpent-worshippers were a portion of the great Celtic race which peopled Britain; and the carvers of the Cerne Baal, as well as the builders of Stonehenge, were invading Sun-worshippers, the Celto-Belge,\* a proximate race, who pushed their settlements throughout Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, and Hampshire. Britain is supposed to have been colonised 3000 years ago; and this giant to have been cut 650 or 700 years after.

*A Treatise on Mental Derangement.* By Francis Willis, M.D., Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, &c. 2d edition, revised. 8vo, pp. 136. Longman and Co.

As insanity, and especially certain moral states of it, is often nothing more than an exhibition of the natural character and moral disposition of the individual, which has become remarkably prominent, or so perverted by excessive indulgence and unexercised restraint as to have ceased to be under the control of reason; so the term "mental derangement" may be said to comprise all those various forms of irregular function, in which the inordinate gratification

and other earthworks, lines of defensive ramparts, an avenue, shallow excavations, and other indications of a British settlement. The circles are constructed, each with a low vallum, but no exterior fosse, and are evidently not associated with any military purpose. . . . The shallow excavations, supposed to denote the sites of the residences of the British population, are thickly scattered over the whole summit of the hill."

\* As a note we may quote a passage on this point. "They (the Belge) were distinguished from them (the Celts) solely in the adoption of a newer and more warlike faith; adoring no longer the diuvin serpent, but that fire-deity whom they worshipped under the designation of El, and who was more generally known by the synonymes Baal or Bel. And it may be regarded as a not improbable etymology, that these people were hence styled, distinctively amongst the Celtic tribes, as the Bel-worshippers,—the 'Bel-gæ' the people of Bel, the final 'gæ' being derivable from the same oriental root as the Greek *gæa*, the Latin *gens*, and other synonymous derivatives. And it is somewhat confirmatory of this position that the Belgic tribes of the Celts differed from the other tribes in being worshippers of El,—the sun,—that in some of our bardic songs, the ancient inhabitants of the country now called Germany, were styled Elmyrn,—El-men,—which name subsequently became affixed to the country itself as Allemagne."

of passions or moral emotions has not only gradually weakened the influence of reason and of self-control, but has also imparted to these emotions a perverted and truly morbid character, and allowed them to assume forms at variance with the established opinions and habits of the world and with the laws of society.

It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, accurately to define insanity, or to draw a line of demarcation between it and what has usually been denominated singularity of opinion or eccentricity of conduct. Hence many have written upon what insanity is, none have yet unfolded what insanity is not. The latter states, viewed either in their moral or in their intellectual relations, pass insensibly into various acknowledged varieties of the former, and are often merely states of transition from the healthy mental manifestations to a condition indisputably morbid.

Since the time of Locke, it has generally been considered that the insane have not lost the power of reasoning, but have entertained as real some illusion or erroneous impression; that they err by reasoning from wrong premises. But, as Dr. Prichard has remarked, these forms of insanity include only a certain class of cases, as melancholia, and especially monomania, or partial insanity—those forms in which certain illusions exist, and the judgment is comparatively clear on all other topics unconnected with the illusions entertained. But although the judgment seems comparatively clear on other topics than those connected with the morbid illusion, yet it must not be considered, with Locke, that the insane make right deductions in all cases. Judgment is the result of comparison, or the balancing of motives and facts; that its result shall be in all cases correct, requires not only that the powers of thought, feeling, or observation, should be all active and healthy, but that attention, which is the active power of all the mental functions, should be equally lively in each individual case. Now this evidently cannot be applied to monomania, where one or more feelings or faculties are destroyed by inordinate gratification and indulgence, and where the monomaniac is totally insane upon those topics connected with the illusions entertained. This is about the present view upon the subject advocated by Doctors Conolly, Copland, Monro, and those other eminent physicians who have most devoted their attention to questions of insanity. As to whether or not a person committing crime under the influence of monomaniacal illusion ought or ought not to be amenable to the laws of his country belongs to another order of inquiry; but as there is no doubt that man is punishable for shades or minute quantities of monomanism—as for theft, under the unhealthy action of cupidity; for fighting, under the insane impulses of passion; for licentiousness, under the ineffective moral government, &c. &c.; and for sudden and irresistible monomanism—as theft, from temptation; and murder, from jealousy, anger, or any other temporary monomania, for such it is while it lasts;—so it appears to be a general feeling entertained by the public, and entertained, if thoroughly sifted, upon very sound grounds, that crime committed from even long-continued monomania should be punishable, even although the judgment should at the time being be erroneous.\* The object of punishment is prevention, not revenge. Monomania, which always arises from excessive indulgence and inordi-

nate gratification of some one or more feelings, fancies, or appetites, can be prevented by the example of punishment; punishment is therefore, according to this shewing, adequate to its prevention, and therefore of social necessity. No medical man, who is called upon to give a simple medical opinion upon a case of well-established monomania, where there is also error of judgment, can say otherwise than that there is insanity; but he is not asked also, is that insanity incapable of being prevented or being cured; while the law acts as if insanity in all cases, as understood by medical men, implied a total unconsciousness. No medical man, if called upon to give a professional opinion upon any case of murder, could conscientiously return any verdict but that of temporary insanity; but this would not save the culprit, nor should it do so in cases of more lasting but partial insanity. "It is undoubted law," said Lord Campbell, "that partial insanity alone is not necessarily relieved from responsibility."

Although Dr. Willis, well known for his labours on these subjects, treats in the present work generally upon insanity, he has not adapted his second edition to the discussion of these important points, which have lately so much occupied public attention, and have obtained a space in the mind of almost every thinking person in the realm. The chief object of the work may be considered to be a long defence of the system of restraint; and having premised this fact, and further avowed our opinion, that no revolutions should be extreme, and that Dr. Willis's work is most highly worthy of perusal, as shewing that there are cases of general and manifest insanity, especially in the high state, which cannot be treated without restraint, we proceed to extract his opinion in the case before mentioned:—

"The public mind having lately been agitated by the melancholy case of Mr. Drummond, and a discussion having been raised in consequence, how far a lunatic who commits an atrocious crime ought to be held responsible for his act and made amenable to the laws, I cannot leave this subject unnoticed. When we see a man, rational on most subjects, arming himself with pistols, and coolly waiting for an opportunity to slay his victim on account of having received from him some fancied ill-usage, we are led to suppose, as this man seemed to premeditate the act, and was sane on other subjects, that he should be held responsible, and I was once greatly disposed to yield to this opinion; but upon looking more closely into the subject, I am now satisfied of the incorrectness of it. Speaking of a sane man, we can justly say he premeditates the act he has planned to perform, but this word does not express or embrace the intentional conduct of the madman; nor can I explain my sentiments more clearly than by saying that he is haunted by such a constant and irresistible impulse to fulfil the object on which his mind is bent as to overcome every healthy and natural feeling, and shut out from his consideration all regard for the consequences, however serious they might be to himself, or to any one else. Whatever be his all-absorbing idea, the lunatic cannot rest, cannot obtain what he calls his peace of mind, until he has accomplished his purpose. This irresistible impulse is strongly exemplified in the case of a patient who determinedly strove to bite out his tongue. He was regardless of the torture he put himself to, so that he could accomplish what he conceived to be his duty. A similar state of feeling leads to suicide; and I am persuaded, if restraint was had recourse to when it is first observed, we should have fewer

\* The opinions recently delivered by the Judges to the House of Peers coincide with this view.

to lament over. The intellects of these persons, although greatly deranged, are not impaired; they are not ignorant of the sinfulness of their conduct, but they are as it were compelled to yield to the dictates of their disordered imagination."

The conclusion of this extract appears to militate very seriously against the somewhat dangerous doctrine which precedes it. It is obviously the exciting cause and first elements of the disorder which ought to be sought for professionally to effect a professional cure; and if this lies in an inordinate indulgence and gratification of an erroneous feeling or impression, it is obvious that, to correct the same by moral and intellectual training is a far more reasonable mode of treatment than mere restraint, which leaves the patient with still more time and leisure for the same gratification. This, and the sense, of which their "unimpaired intellects" will give them a full consciousness, of the punishment awaiting the gratification of any desire which involves an infringement of the laws, would sufficiently prevent their supposed "compulsory yielding"—a fallacious combination of ideas—to the dictates of their disordered imagination.

#### THE LATE KING OF PRUSSIA.

*Charakter-Züge und historische Fragmente aus dem Leben des Königs von Preussen Friedrich Wilhelm III.* Traits of Character and historical Fragments, from the Life of Frederic William III., King of Prussia. Collected from personal Observation, and published by R. F. Eylert. Vol. I.

The design of the author of this work was not to give a biography of the late king, but merely some sketches, illustrated by anecdotes, of his private character as a man and a Christian. The time to write a complete history of his eventful reign of more than forty years, with its extraordinary vicissitudes of extreme and apparently hopeless adversity, and of signal recovery and brilliant good fortune, is not yet come. "The materials," says the author, "for such a biography have yet to be collected; and many things in the history of his government, which now appear isolated, fragmentary, and obscure, cannot and will not be connected and cleared up till some future time; yet it is the more important and interesting to disclose as far as possible what may illustrate the personal character of the late king, because it was one of his peculiarities to withdraw from the eye of the world whatever of good and excellent proceeded immediately from himself, and always to appear less than he was. Every contribution, however small, must be welcome, and gratefully received, if it contain faithful historical traits of the deceased monarch. The contribution which appears in this work is derived chiefly from the king's private life; as the author's official duties as his chaplain for above thirty years to his death, necessarily placed him constantly near his majesty's person, and afforded him ample opportunity for observing him. This work, therefore, has no concern with the great events of his reign; it does not tell of wars, of battles lost or won, of politics and legislation, but it gives an insight into those tranquil hours, when we see the king, not so much as a sovereign, but simply and without disguise as a man and a Christian."

These extracts from the preface shew what the reader has to expect. The learned bishop, now in his 74th year, has done great service to his late sovereign and patron, by giving, from

his own personal knowledge, a character of Frederic William III., which cannot but raise him in the estimation of the world. The first volume was so well received that an edition of 3000 copies was exhausted in a few weeks, and a new edition called for. The author hopes to publish the second and last volume before the end of this year.

We will now give some extracts in the order in which we find them in the book, the author not having placed them in chronological order, but partly classed them under separate heads—temperate habits, sound natural understanding, sagacity, memory, veracity, magnanimity, piety, &c.

"In dress, as in every thing else, the king loved simplicity. He usually wore a plain blue coat closely buttoned. In the country, as in the Peacock Island, he preferred a comfortable great coat. At watering-places, he laid aside every thing that could cause him to be recognised as king; and he was seen taking his walks in a dark olive-green coat, white waistcoat, and grey pantaloons, a black cravat, and without orders, and with a walking-stick, which otherwise he never used. He parted unwillingly with convenient old clothes, and wore them as long as he could with propriety; if a new coat or cloak was mentioned, he thought he did not want it, till he was prevailed on by his amiable daughters. But, however plainly he might be dressed, the innate dignity of his character was manifest; and in whatever company he might be seen, nobody ever needed to ask, 'which is the king?'"

The same love of simplicity, as far as he was personally concerned, was observed in his table, and, in short, in all his domestic arrangements. On his accession to the throne, he did not remove to the spacious and magnificent palace of his ancestors, but remained in the small but convenient palace which he had occupied as crown prince. The apartments were cheerful and tastefully fitted up, the chief ornaments being fine paintings and perennial flowers, of which he was very fond; but there was no splendour, much less any ostentatious ornament. He was a friend and connoisseur of the fine arts in all their branches; and in the forty-three years of his reign expended millions in the purchase of valuable works, and in building and fitting up the great museum. His sense of beauty was combined with a firm, benignant moral feeling. He was fond of representations of scenes of patriarchal simplicity, of innocent mirth, and harmless humour; but, above all, of subjects from the life of Christ and his apostles. In the circle of his family, and when there were but a few guests, his table was like that of a private gentleman of fortune; but even then he took only the plainest and most wholesome dishes. He drank little wine, never more than two or three glasses: he was never seen to be elevated by wine, though he liked his guests to follow their own tastes; and almost as soon as they had emptied their glasses they were filled again by the numerous servants; but his example was a warning against all excess; and even in the most splendid entertainments at court, a person overcome by liquor was never seen at his table.

But we must leave these general remarks, and give a few of the anecdotes.

"The king was extremely fond of fine ripe fruit, and the greatest attention was paid to the hot and greenhouses built by Frederic the Great near Sans Souci. Every morning throughout the year, a quantity of the finest fruit of every kind was brought to the palace, and placed on a table in his sitting-room.

Tickets with the names of his children, and baskets ornamented with flowers, were on the table. With a cheerful countenance, he selected the choicest of the fruit, and, putting them in the baskets with the tickets, sent them to his children by the servant who stood ready. This love of fine fruit he had when a child; and the following instance of self-denial is worth recording: When he was ten years old, a gardener's boy brought him, one day in the month of January, a small basket of beautiful ripe cherries, the sight of which gave him much pleasure, and he wished to taste them. But being told they would cost five dollars, he said, with some surprise, 'What! five dollars for a handful of cherries? I won't have them.' Soon afterwards, a master-shoemaker, a citizen of Potsdam, was announced; and I (his *valet de chambre*) informed the prince that the poor man had long been ill of a nervous fever, and his business had fallen off, so that he wanted twenty dollars to buy leather to set him up again; but not having such a sum, he applied, in his great distress, to the prince. 'How much money have I in hand?' said he. On my saying fifty dollars, he ordered me to give the man the twenty dollars in his name, and to wish him success. Highly rejoiced, and much affected, the man received this welcome gift, and expressed a wish to be permitted to thank his royal highness in person; but the prince refused, saying it is unnecessary, and would only make the poor man feel ashamed."

When the king returned in 1809 to his capital, after the fatal war, he was asked whether champagne should be ordered. "Not yet," he replied,—"not till all my subjects, even the poorest, can again drink beer."

As a proof of his sound natural understanding and correct judgment, Bishop Eylert says, "When he had once recognised any line of conduct as the best, he firmly abided by it, even though he stood alone, and all who were consulted differed from him. Among many instances, I may mention what happened in 1812, when Napoleon undertook his gigantic expedition against Russia. The king was placed in the most painful position, being obliged to give to the powerful sovereign, at that time at the height of his power—to his mortal enemy, who had ruined him, his country, and his people—the assistance of part of his troops against his friend Alexander. Shocked at such a monstrous, unnatural state of things, all his confidential counsellors, fearing the worst, were unanimously of opinion, that no further negotiation should be carried on with Napoleon, who had clearly enough manifested his hatred to Prussia, and especially to the king. Many thought that it would be the best to take a decisive step, and enter into a close alliance with Russia against France. This advice appeared plausible enough, and the most eminent diplomats supported it: the king alone was decidedly opposed to it. 'Who,' said he, 'will guarantee, that if I, not strong enough alone to oppose the French army, pass the Prussian frontier with my troops and join the Russians,—who, I say, will answer for it that the French emperor will not, on a sudden, change his plan, give up his intended war against Russia, and, by the right of conquest, take possession of the other half of my kingdom, so that all would be irrecoverably lost? No; in such great conjunctures in the history of the world, which are directed by a higher hand, we must not anticipate Divine Providence, but wait for its inspirations. In following my opinion, there are only two possible results. Either the French emperor succeeds,—and then he cannot take from us what

we still have, since I have conformed to his will, and given him my auxiliary troops; or he fails, as I hope he will, and we shall then see what is to be done.' The world knows how wise this advice was, and how fully it justifies what the Baron von Stein said of him: 'The king is the most clear-sighted and prudent of us all, without knowing it; just as the truly good man does not know that he is good.'

Field-marshal Diebitch, who had gained great honour in the war between Russia and Turkey, being once mentioned in the course of conversation, Colonel N. N., the king's *aide-de-camp*, a sensible, amiable man, but who, through his good nature and the demands of a numerous family, was always in great pecuniary embarrassments, and whose debts the king had often paid, observed that he was extremely glad that Diebitch was a Prussian by birth, and had been educated in the Royal Academy for Cadets, at Berlin. "Thus you see," said the king, "how a Prussian is fit for any thing. When the emperor of Russia wants a minister of finance, I will propose you." This rather pungent remark was, however, delivered in so friendly and good-natured a tone, that it carried with it a promise of better financial circumstances; for soon afterwards, when the king had presented to the same worthy man a very considerable sum in bills on the Prussian treasury, which he put into an old book, marked on the title-page "first part," he asked him pleasantly, "How did you like the book?" "Exceedingly," said the colonel; "the contents of the first part were so delightful, that I quite long for the second part." The king repeated the present in the same manner; but wrote on the title-page, "Second and last part."

His majesty had ordered a new carriage for his journey to Italy. When the coachmaker, who lived at Berlin, took it to Charlottenburg, the king having examined it, said, "The main point is, whether, besides being convenient, as I ordered, it is likewise solid and durable." "In this carriage," said the maker, "your majesty may safely go to Rome, and not a nail will give way." To make a trial of this new carriage, the king rode in it from Charlottenburg to Berlin; but the fore-axletree broke in the Linden, just opposite the hotel called "The City of Rome." The king very quietly alighted, saying, "The man has kept his word; I have got to the city of Rome."

"May I be permitted to mention another joke of the king's, in which I was myself concerned. I had preached before his majesty on Luke xiv. 8-11, 'When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding, sit not down in the highest room, lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him, and he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room. But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room, that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher; then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee. For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased, and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.' On the ground of this text, I spoke of the virtue of modesty and humility as the surest pledge of contentment. On the same day, being invited to the royal table, and many persons high in office being among the company, I took my seat at the lower end of the table. When the king looked round on the company and perceived me, he called out, 'Eylert, I suppose you are think-

ing of your text; but it says, 'Friend, go up higher; come and sit down opposite me.'\* The honour thus conferred is out of the question; for conferred with such *éclat*, it was unmerited and embarrassing."

One of the most honourable features of the character of Frederic William III., was his profound veneration for the Christian religion and its Divine founder; how fully he was imbued with its spirit, is shewn by numberless well-known instances of his unaffected humility, his unostentatious piety, and his readiness to forgive and forget injuries,—a virtue which he had but too many occasions to practise. We will close our extracts for the present with an abridgment of Bishop Eylert's account of one memorable instance:—

After the fatal battle of Jena in 1806, and its still more fatal consequences, numerous pamphlets, newspapers, &c., represented the new order of things in the most brilliant colours, and poured contempt and scorn on the unhappy king, as a weakling no longer equal to the exigency of his times, and as a cypher compared with the Emperor Napoleon.

The most insolent and shameless of these writings were "Confidential Letters on the Prussian Court," and a periodical called "Fire-brands," which the public voice ascribed to Colonel von Massenbach. This Massenbach was a clever active man. Educated in the school of Frederic II. he was an enthusiastic admirer of the great king, and saw nothing but perfection in his institutions, which he thought ought to be preserved as a palladium, unconscious that the animating spirit had long since departed; and he, and such as thought like him, but too soon learned that the field of Auerstädt (or Jena) was very different from the parade at Potsdam.

This result, so humiliating to his pride, and so completely mortifying to his arrogant assumption of Prussian superiority, seems to have absolutely paralysed him. Formerly so brave and enterprising, he surrendered, with a considerable corps which he commanded, to an inferior French force in the vicinity of Prenslaw, and basely laid down his arms in a perfect confusion of intellect, confounding the right and the left banks of the Ucker, and wholly bewildered. He then turned from the one long cherished extreme to the opposite. His attachment to Prussia was changed into antipathy; he worshipped the great Napoleon as the worthy successor of his adored Frederic; and instead of going to Königsberg, as others did, after the king, he returned to Potsdam, and in the bitterness of his heart dipped his pen in gall.

He indeed most deeply felt the misfortune of Prussia, and often wept over it. He alleged that Prussia never could recover, and that the only means left to retain our existence as a nation was to throw itself without reserve into the arms of France. He even drew up a paper to this effect, which he communicated to Bishop Eylert, who was intimate with him, saying that he should send it to the king. Eylert remonstrated against so monstrous a purpose; in vain: the letter was sent, and obtained the following answer: "I have not asked your advice, and you have only to answer for your cowardly conduct at Prenslaw."

When the king returned to Potsdam in 1809 Massenbach went to Stuttgart; where, instead of employing his great talents to some useful and honourable purpose, he composed *Memoirs of Frederic William III. King of Prussia*, his per-

\* The king probably was not at one end of the table, but in the centre of one side, as is frequently done in Germany.

sonal Character, his Family, and Court. In this voluminous and scandalous work he not only poured forth, without measure, the most virulent insults to the king, but dared to touch with his impure hands the unsullied character and the spotless honour of Queen Louisa. Nay, what is still more inconceivable, he sent the manuscript of this libel to the king, declaring that he would print and publish it to the world; but that he would suppress and destroy it, if the king would give him (as he was without resources) a large sum, exceeding what a bookseller had offered him for it. The king remained faithful to his noble, grave, and mild character, which preserved him from taking any hasty, passionate step, which in such a case would have been excusable. He sent the libel to the chief of the military tribunal, observing, that being grievously insulted, with his deceased consort and his family, he refrained from taking any decision in his own cause; but he required a most thorough and impartial investigation, and desired that when it had passed through all the stages the sentence should be reported to him. The judges unanimously decided that the author was fully proved to be guilty of high treason, and accordingly condemned him to death. The king commuted the sentence to imprisonment for life in a fortress; and the necessary legal steps having been taken, Massenbach was arrested at Francfort, where he was then living, and conveyed under an escort of Prussian soldiers to the fortress of Glatz.

The worthy son of this unhappy father, and of an excellent pious mother, came at the end of 1826 to Berlin, and expressed to General von Witzleben a wish to speak to the king in person. Being told that this could not well be, because the king having broken his leg was confined to his bed, and saw nobody except his physician and family, the young man answered that he was very sorry for this, because he was come to Berlin to express to his majesty, in his father's name, his deeply felt gratitude for having restored him to liberty.

"How?" exclaimed Witzleben, with astonishment,— "is your father no longer in the fortress of Glatz? where is he then?" "For this week past he has been at home with his family." "By whose order?" "That of his majesty the king." "That is very strange; for though all such matters pass through my hands, I know nothing of it; and since the king broke his leg, he is confined to his bed, and cannot write himself. Besides, he would certainly have said something to me about it: I cannot help thinking there is some mistake." As young Massenbach persisted, Witzleben looked at him doubtfully, fearing that the misfortunes of the father had affected the intellect of the good son; but as he spoke very clearly, stating many circumstances, Witzleben said, "It is possible that the privy cabinet counsellor Albrecht knows of it; let us go and ask him." But he was equally ignorant of it.

"I happened to be sitting at the king's bedside," says the reverend author, "when General von Witzleben entered, and related the whole matter. The king, whose pale countenance was suffused with a faint flush, answered: 'It is quite correct, and happened as follows. Last week, when I had a sleepless night, with great pain, I thought of the manifold events of my past life: in the midst of them, Colonel Massenbach occurred to me, and his image stood before my soul softened and better. At length I fell asleep. When I awoke, strengthened by the refreshing rest for which I had prayed, I remembered, I know not how, that beautiful passage in the Bible: 'Love your



enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you,' &c. Immediately I called for paper, pen, and ink; and, that there might be no further talk about it, wrote myself the order to the governor of the fortress of Glatz, to release Colonel von Massenbach. I will not see his son; it would only embarrass him. I do not like *éclat*; but tell him to say to his father, that I wish he may henceforth live quietly and happily in the bosom of his family—that every thing is forgiven and forgotten."

"The king spoke these words calmly and slowly, with a faint voice, and a ray of heavenly joy seemed to beam in his mild countenance; but our eyes were filled with tears. When General Witzleben retired, and the king made a sign to me to stop, I expressed my joy at the noble Christian action which he had communicated to us. 'What is there in it to wonder at?' said he; 'I have done no more than any other Christian in similar circumstances should and must do according to the precepts of our Redeemer. But external circumstances may render it more easy. In misfortune and sickness we think differently, and feel and judge more mildly. I am glad that this has come of itself, and that God inspired me with the idea.'"

*Ancient History remodelled from Rollin, with Notes and Extracts from Modern Authors.* By Mary Shoobred. 3 vols. 12mo. London, Seeley, Nisbet and Co.; Groombridge; R. Cussons.

We can conscientiously recommend this work as a painstaking reduction of Rollin within moderate and instructing compass; with annotations from more recent authorities, which correct errors, elucidate obscurities, and supply new information. It is an excellent book for youth.

*Murray's Hand-book for Travellers in France; with Five Travelling Maps.* Pp. 395. Murray. ANOTHER very complete example of the industry and care with which Mr. Murray has produced these most useful guides. The traveller needs neither courier nor other viceroy over him, if provided with this pocket-volume.

*Marmaduke Wypil; or, the Maid's Revenge: an Historical Romance.* By H. W. Herbert, Esq., author of "Oliver Cromwell." 3 vols. Colburn. ANOTHER historical romance belonging to the same unhappy times which first evoked the writer's talent in this species of composition. It begins in a spirited manner, and proceeds to graver and deeper matters with considerable power. Without going into any of the events of the fatal civil wars which ravaged England two hundred years ago, we may say that Mr. Herbert's pictures are faithful and interesting; and his work altogether above the average of the class: though we cannot speak of him in the same breath with Scott, James, or Bulwer.

*British and Foreign Travellers' Guide, &c.* Pp. 82. Sherwood, Gilbert, and Piper.

WITHIN small compass, and at a very small price, there is a vast mass of useful information contained in this Guide. The extension of railroad and steam travelling has rendered such a publication peculiarly desirable, and it appears to us to have been compiled with care and diligence; so that all persons designing to journey at home or abroad will find reference to it both easy and complete. The moneys of various countries, passports, mails and postages,

times and fares, and, in short, all that sort of instruction which is looked for in a production of the kind, are stated according to the latest data, and readily supply much of that convenient intelligence which must otherwise be sought in many quarters and be often imperfectly acquired.

*Principia: a Series of Essays on the Principles of Evil.* By S. R. Bosanquet, Esq. Pp. 431. London, J. Burns.

SOME of these essays appeared originally in the *British Critic*; but to these very considerable additions have been made, and the whole form a very patient and elaborate investigation of a question which has puzzled mankind from the creation of the world to the present day.

*A Comprehensive History of the Iron-Trade throughout the World, &c.* By H. Scrivenor. 8vo, pp. 453. Smith, Elder, and Co.

THIS is one of the works which we take blame to ourselves for having too long suffered to lie unnoticed. It is a most complete history of iron and the iron-trade, and its uses and the modes of working it, which it is possible to produce; is full of information, and both for its ancient notices and modern intelligence is most worthy of the public, and especially of all who are concerned in this great branch of domestic economy and manufacture.

*Excursions along the Banks of the Rhine.* By Victor Hugo. Complete in 1 vol. Pp. 418. London, Colburn.

THIS French work having been extolled in the *Quarterly Review*, and having excited a great sensation in Germany (as well as in France, where the author of the *Hunchback of Notre Dame* is among the most popular of its writers), the hint was sufficient for an English translation. To those who do not read the original this version will be welcome; for though there are blots and blemishes, there is a picturesqueness about the whole which more than atones for them. The legends introduced are entertaining, and the descriptions marked by fanciful associations, and we may say inclinations, which invest old and often-painted scenes with novel features. With regard to feelings, passions, and human nature, there is a Frenchness about every trait, that English taste will hardly relish; and many strange anomalies strike us in the midst of his most finished endeavours. M. Hugo's anti-English prejudices are of no consequence, and English readers will heed them not; but be pleased with his creating so much of novelty upon so hackneyed and worn-out a subject as a tour on the Rhine.

*Jest and Earnest: a Series of Sketches.* By Arthur Wallbridge. Pp. 120. Orr and Co.

THESE alight sketches, such as the majority which enliven our magazines, have reached a second edition. Thus if one of the ephemera, a reward of two lives may speak for its popularity.

*Eighteen Treatises from the Mishna.* Translated by the Rev. D. A. de Sola and the Rev. M. J. Raphall. 8vo, pp. 368. London: Sherwood, Gilbert, and Piper.

A CONTRIBUTION to the knowledge of Jewish history, ceremonials, and opinions, which will convey much new information to readers of every class. The divinity or non-divinity of the oral law, a schism in the Hebrew synagogue, is the grand question on which its quotations and arguments are brought to bear; but its chief interest with us is the incidental light which it throws upon the house of Israel in its dispersion and future prospects.

## ARTS AND SCIENCES.

## KING'S COLLEGE.

THE arrangements of the physical museum (of which and of its contents we have already written, *Lit. Gaz.* No. 1372) having been completed with judgment and good taste, the opening of it to the public was made the occasion, on Thursday, of a grand ceremony. The whole of the rooms in the college, the several valuable museums, the capacious and well-furnished Marsden library, &c. were thrown open to the crowds of visitors. On every side were objects of interest; and professors, moreover, of natural philosophy, of mechanics, of botany, of chemistry, of comparative anatomy, &c. &c. to answer questions, and to explain the history, character, construction, or application of the numerous specimens, inventions, productions, or preparations. And this they did again and again from one to nearly five o'clock, with great courtesy and kindness; but first to H.R.H. Prince Albert, without whose presence no general scientific assembly can be complete. We hear, by the way, that a deputation from Cork will be the bearers of a special invitation for the honour of the prince's attendance at the ensuing meeting of the British Association, which we trust he will accept. The prince on his arrival at King's College was received by the principal and professors, complimented by a Latin address, and greeted with "God save the Queen" by Hullah's pupils arranged in the great entrance hall. The royal instruments and apparatus, Wheatstone's electrical inventions, and Babbage's calculating machine, were the principal attractions of the day.

## INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

June 16 and 17.—Two evenings this year, instead of one as hitherto, were given to the choice of the numbers invited by the president to his annual *conversazione*. There were present on the first about 300 visitors; but on the Saturday, which, from habit we suppose, seems the more legitimate evening for scientific *soirées*, a brilliant company assembled, at the head of whom may be mentioned Prince Albert, who has been recently enrolled an honorary member of the institution. To name the distinguished visitors and men of note in science and art, and to particularise the beautiful collection of models and other objects of interest in the several rooms as they deserve, would require a whole *Gazette*: we therefore refrain, concluding with a simple recording of the enjoyment, and of the liberality and courtesy of Mr. Walker, and Mr. Manby, secretary to the institution, both of whom were indefatigable in their attention to the guests.

## STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

June 19.—Lord Ashley, president, in the chair. The fifth report of the education committee of the society was read. The report gave a summary of the returns that they have collected of the state of education in the boroughs of Marylebone and Finsbury, and in the lower parts of the Tower Hamlets. The population of the district visited is as follows:—

In the city of London	129,251
Westminster	229,647
Borough of Finsbury, exclusive of the parts north of the Regent's Canal	200,661
Borough of Marylebone, exclusive of the parts north of the New Road	150,000
Wapping, Shadwell, Whitechapel	91,000
Total	800,559

Within the limits above described there are 273 charity-schools for the education of the poor (exclusive of Sunday-schools), and 1153

private schools. The number of scholars is 58,800, of whom 35,867 are in charity-schools and 22,933 in private schools: 290 schools for the education of the middling classes have also been visited, containing 9096 scholars; and 163 Sunday-schools, containing 28,891 scholars. The attention of the committee was particularly directed to the private schools for the education of the poor, because, whilst the charity and Sunday schools are sufficiently known to the public through the medium of the reports of the societies to which they belong, the census of private schools has never been taken, or a description of them attempted. The most common kind of school is that kept by females, and known by the name of dame-schools. The average amount paid for instruction at these schools is 5*d.* a week. At the common day-schools, which are sometimes kept by men, but more frequently by females, the average terms are 10*d.* per week. The report draws particular attention to the fact of the small proportion of private schools for the poor which exist in Westminster, and the gradual increase of them proceeding eastward. In Westminster there is one scholar to every 48.6 inhabitants; and in Wapping 1 to every 18.2. The wants of the former are in some measure made up by the greater number of schools for the middle classes. The following table is interesting as shewing the religion of the proprietors of schools:—

RELIGION.	City of London.	Westminster.	Finchley.	Marylebone.	East District.	Total.	Per centage.
Estab. Church	88	197	200	125	121	729	63.22
Evangelical Dis-	41	51	87	43	87	309	25.93
senters							
Various Protest-	1	—	2	1	4	8	.93
ant sects							
Romanists	—	—	6	3	6	17	1.14
Jews	13	—	—	—	9	22	1.90
Socialists	—	—	—	—	1	1	.08
Not known	25	9	22	44	20	80	6.80
	168	259	317	216	248	1166	100

With respect to the efficiency of the schools, a considerable difference exists between girls' and boys' schools, or rather between those kept by men and those kept by women. The latter are decidedly superior in point of cleanliness and comfort. At the Jews' schools every child is taught to read Hebrew. One socialist school was observed, where the master professedly taught socialism; and there were ten proprietors of schools who spoke upon serious things in a manner which indicated that their principles were inflexible.

A second paper was read, by Professor Guy of King's College, "On the influence of employment upon health." The materials from which this paper was compiled were obtained from the registers of the out-patients of King's College Hospital, and comprised upwards of 3000 individuals, all engaged upon various occupations. A series of elaborate tables accompanied the paper, shewing the different diseases to which males and females had been subject, from which the author arrives at the following conclusions:—In females, the ratio of cases of pulmonary consumption to those of all other diseases, is highest in those following sedentary employments, less in those having mixed in-door employments, and least in those occupied out of doors. The highest ratio occurs in the case of females whose habits of life are irregular. In men, the ratio of cases of pulmonary consumption to those of all other diseases, is somewhat higher in those following in-door occupations than in those working in

the open air. The ratio of cases of pulmonary consumption to those of all other diseases, in the case of men following in-door employments, varies inversely as the amount of exertion,—being highest where there is least exertion, and lowest in employments requiring strong exercise. Neither a constrained posture nor exposure to a high temperature appears to have any marked effect in promoting pulmonary consumption. The ratio of cases of pulmonary consumption to those of all other diseases, is highest in the case of men whose employments expose them to the inhalation of dust, there being, in the case of persons so employed, two cases of consumption for less than three of all other diseases. The practical rule to be deduced from the preceding observations is, that those persons who have an hereditary tendency to consumption should make choice of occupations which are carried on in the open air; and that if they are obliged to choose some in-door employment, it should be one requiring strong exercise; and that they, more than others, should avoid exposure to dust, and habits of intemperance.

#### ROYAL INSTITUTION.

June 9 (last evening meeting).—Mr. Faraday, "On the electricity of steam." The theatre was literally crammed with attentive listeners. The illustration of this interesting subject was experimentally and most admirably conducted. We have so recently (*Lit. Gazette*, No. 1369, page 239) given the results of Mr. Faraday's investigations in regard to the electricity of steam, that we should not again recur to them were it not for the relation they bear to the extraordinary operation of nature, the thunder-storm, to which many of the remarks on Friday evening had reference. How is the atmosphere electrified? Is it by evaporation? by means of it clouds and mists, rains and dews, are formed; but does the same operation carry up and supply electricity? Hitherto our knowledge extended to this; we knew that by pouring water into a hot crucible, for instance, and by the first bursting into vapour, electricity could be obtained; and hence evaporation was supposed to be a source of electricity. The discovery of the electricity of the steam-boiler appeared likely to extend our views in this respect; for if the quantity of electricity produced were a result of the mere issue of steam, then might atmospheric electricity be affirmed to be due to evaporation. But Mr. Faraday asserts that there is no connexion between evaporation and atmospheric electricity; and proves that the electricity of steam is not produced by the evolution of steam, but by the friction of the water only, and that consequently there is no substance in nature so high in the scale of electric bodies as water: it takes rank above catskin, hitherto the head of the list.

#### SOCIETY OF ARTS.

On Monday the annual distribution of the rewards, adjudged during the session just concluded, by the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, took place in the Adelphi; H. R. H. Prince Albert presiding. Within a few minutes after 12 o'clock His Royal Highness entered the room (adorned with the paintings of Barry; an extraordinary display of genius and waywardness in conception and execution), and was conducted to his seat by vice-presidents and other officers. The secretary, Mr. Whishaw, whose exertions and talents have, we believe, done much to revive the society, read a report, which spoke cheerfully of the great progress recently made in its affairs, and

the kindly prospect of increased prosperity. The medals and acknowledgments were then delivered by the Prince in a graceful manner to the successful candidates, or their representatives: the scientific inventions and improvements being briefly explained by Mr. B. Rotch, or by the inventors themselves as they were called up for presentation. The premiums were not very numerous; but when we consider that it was only a few months ago that the society uttered its appeal in *extremis*, and that it has been resuscitated, and enrolled a number of powerful friends too lately to feel the full benefit of their patronage, we must deem the result to be very satisfactory and encouraging. The following is the list of the prizes:—

1. *In Mechanics and other practical Arts.*—1. To Mr. J. Osborn, for an improved method of hanging window-sashes, the silver Isis medal.
2. To Commander Beadon, R.N., for an improved life-buoy, the gold Isis medal.
3. To Mr. T. Quarm, for a bevelling instrument for joiners, the silver Isis medal.
4. To the late Sir J. Robison, for his method of making half-round files, the silver medal.
5. To Mr. C. Grafton, for his plan of a self-acting feeding apparatus for high-pressure boilers, the silver medal.
6. To Major Farley, for his plan of forming a floating breakwater, the silver medal.
7. To Mr. D. Bond, for an improved tube for weaving wide velvet, three pounds.
8. To Mr. J. Ferry, for an instrument for drawing out terry wires, the silver Isis medal and three pounds.
9. To Mr. A. Jones, for his improved machine for winding-quills, the silver Isis medal.
10. To Mr. W. Rook, for his improved loom for weaving horsehair, the silver Isis medal and three pounds.
11. To Mr. R. McEwen, for his machinery for hot-pressing lace-goods, the gold Isis medal.

The thanks of the Society were voted to A. Bosanquet, Esq., for his capsule for champagne bottles.

Dr. Vansborough, for his improved shield for sore nipples.

T. Bookler, Esq., for his improvements in the manufacture of iron.

Mrs. Good, for her improved blind for Gothic windows.

In the *Fine Arts*.—12. To Miss C. L. Belville, for a chalk drawing of the Townley Hercules, the silver medal.

13. To Mr. R. Matts, for a design for a school-house, the gold Isis medal.

14. To Mr. J. B. Waring, for designs for architectural adornments, the silver medal.

15. To Mr. P. E. Masey, for the west elevation of a Gothic church, the silver Isis medal.

16. To Master E. G. Giradot, for a painting in oil of animals from life, the silver medal.

17. To Mr. J. Richardson, for portraits of a family in oil, the silver medal.

18. To Mr. G. Wood, for a portrait in oil, the silver medal.

19. To Mr. E. Ziegler, for a chalk drawing of the Apollo, the silver Isis medal.

The room was filled with a company of ladies and gentlemen, who took a lively interest in the scene; and the appearance of several of the humbler class of mechanics to receive the tribute due to their ingenuity and intelligence afforded gratifying proof of the superior character of this branch of the citizens of England.

#### PARIS LETTER.

Paris, June 17, 1863.

*Academy of Sciences:* sitting of 12th June.—The researches of M. Serres on the primitive developments of the embryo have led him to discover the existence of the allantois in the envelopes of the human embryo.

M. Pelouze and Gelis have obtained butyric acid from saccharine fermentation. The formation of butyric acid as the product of the fermentation of sugar will necessarily occupy an important place in the discussions on the formation of animal fat. It is effected without the medium of any considerable elevation of temperature, and without the employment of



any violent re-agents liable to destroy the equilibrium and vitality of the animal economy. It takes place in conditions very simple, and with materials which living nature itself supplies.

M. Leymerie reports that native mercury appears to exist in the department of Aveyron, near to the village St. Paul-des-Fonts, St. Afrique. The lower part of the village, traversed by a river which is fed by waters rising above the shelving marls, reposes on chalk. It is in the marl, or rather in the detritic soil with which it is covered, that the presence of mercury has been noticed to M. Leymerie by numerous witnesses. Running globules of mercury have been observed by the inhabitants of St. Paul. Trees have perished in good earth, from the presumed contact of their roots with the metal, which appears to exist not only in and upon the marls of St. Paul, but also in the chalk extending to a considerable distance from the village.

M. Quelet forwarded a note on the fall of an aerolite, observed in the environs of Utrecht, on the 2d inst., at 8 p.m. This phenomenon was accompanied by a detonation, which was heard at a distance of twenty-five kilometres from the place where it exploded, and resembled the noise of three or four cannons. The detonation was followed by peculiar rattling, which was compared to a kind of military music. Two fragments, at a depth of one metre, were found in the place where the aerolite was seen to fall: the one weighed 7 kil., the other 2.7 kil. Their appearance was that of ordinary aerolites.

M. Demidoff, from St. Petersburg, communicated tables of meteorological observations made at Nijne Taguisk during the months of January and February last. The thermometrical indications were:—

	January.	February.
Maximum . . .	+ 1.5° R.	+ 6.5° R.
Minimum . . .	— 18.0	— 13.0
Mean . . .	— 5.51	— 2.70

It snowed twenty-six times in the first, and twenty-five times in the second month.

M. Pilla sent observations on terrestrial temperature made in the interior of an open well at Montemassi, near Grassetto in Tuscany. At the bottom of the well, 348 metres deep, the temperature of the soil was 25° higher than that of the surface. This difference corresponds to an increase of 1° for 13.9m., which is more than double the relation generally admitted.

M. de la Rive wrote that he had decomposed water by the apparatus that he has named *condensateur voltaïque*.

A mode of treating stammering has been discovered by a simple mechanic, M. Jourdan, and practised, it is stated, with complete success on the son of one of the members of the academy, M. Alfred Bequerel. A commission has been appointed to report on its efficacy on an extended scale.\*

M. Laugier has been elected to the astronomical section.

## LITERARY AND LEARNED.

### UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, June 15.—The following degrees were conferred:—

*Masters of Arts.*—Rev. J. H. Waugh, Magdalen Hall; Rev. S. C. Malan, Balliol College, grand compounders; J. Shank, Christ Church; Rev. H. Skrine, Wadham College; Rev. M. W. James, Oriel College; Rev. C. C. Goodden, Exeter College; Rev. W. J. Vine, St. John's College; Rev. A. L. W. Bean, R. Y. Lloyd, Pembroke Coll.; Rev. W. Giffard, C. Cookson, University College; R. Ormsby, fellow of Trinity.  
*Bachelors of Arts.*—J. Langworthy, Magd. Hall; S. F. Cradock, C. Allen, Brasenose College; F. Naghten,

scholar of Corpus Ch. College; T. G. Luard, Wadham College; T. H. Ravenhill, Worcester College.

June 14.—The names of the following gentlemen were announced as the successful candidates for the prizes for the present year:—

*Latin verse.*—"Ventic." E. Walford, scholar of Balliol College.—*English Essay.*—"The advantages and disadvantages of the feudal system." H. B. Barry, B.A., Michel scholar of Queen's College.—*Latin essay.*—"Quoniam fuerit publicum certamen apud antiquos vis et utilitas." R. R. W. Lingen, B.A., fellow of Balliol College.—*English verse.*—"Cromwell." M. Arnold, scholar of Balliol College.

CAMBRIDGE, June 12.—The following degrees were conferred:—

*Bachelors in Divinity.*—Rev. R. Phelps, Master of Sidney Sussex College; Rev. G. Wray, fellow of St. John's College; Rev. A. Tate, fellow of Emmanuel College; Rev. D. F. Morgan, Queen's College.

*Bachelors in Medicine.*—H. Davies, Queen's Coll.; C. H. Jones, Cath. Hall; J. H. Webster, Jesus Coll.

*Bachelors of Arts.*—F. Nalder, Magd. College; J. R. Whyte, Downing College.

### SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

June 1.—Mr. Gurney in the chair. Mr. W. Chaffers, jun., communicated a notice of a fragment of a Roman sepulchral inscription found in cutting through the foundation of one of the walls of the monastery of the Black Friars, in Playhouse Yard. It appears to have been commemorative of a *speculator* of the second legion, surnamed *Augusta*. A rubbing from the rich monumental brass of Bishop Hallam, in the cathedral of Constance, who died there while attending the council in 1416, was exhibited, accompanied with an historical essay. Several minor communications were also read.

15.—Mr. Hallam in the chair. Among a number of short papers winding up the season, including one from Mr. Kempe, "On antiquities discovered on the coast of Wales," was read an interesting paper by the Baron de Bode, "On some antiquities found in 1841 in a tumulus near the town of Asterabad, on the south-eastern shore of the Caspian Sea, bordering on the territory of Turkomania." These antiquities are now lodged in the museum of the shah of Persia, and consist of vessels of gold and other objects in stone and marble, with some war-implements of copper. The district in which they were found is the ancient *Hyrcania* of the Greek geographers, which is but a corruption of *Vehrkan*, or *Gurkana*, of the Zend texts, and forms likewise part of *Parthiana*, of which so little is known. The chief articles in the tumulus, of which drawings were exhibited, were a gold goblet weighing 36 oz., with the figures of a man and a woman in very low relief, and of very rude workmanship. The figure of the man is dressed in a fell-skin, with the fur outside, descending from the loins to the knees. In his right hand he holds an instrument somewhat similar to the long pruning-knife in use at present among the peasants of Asterabad, and an indispensable weapon in that woody country. The woman is dressed in a short petticoat which reaches the ankles, descending from the hips: she has likewise bracelets on her wrists and ankles, similar to the ornaments of the Indian women. The physiognomy of these figures struck us from its absolute identity with that of the sculptures among the ruins of the ancient American cities; and as there can be no doubt of the immense antiquity of the Asterabad tumulus, it appears to us a strong proof of the Tartar origin of the aborigines of America. The other devices on this goblet are, two lions on their hind-feet, two cypress-trees, and four winged insects resembling large bees. The second article appears to be a golden lamp, with a long spout for the wick, and weighs 70 oz. Its external ornaments exhibit more art than is discernible in the former. Below the spout is a very graceful head-piece of the *buzi-kuh*, or

mountain-goat, which is met with on the barren heights of the Alburn mountains. The next is a vase of that species which in Gmelin's account of the province of Ghilan is named the *culture of the Caucasus*. The other articles are, a golden pot with carved ornaments on it, weighing 11½ oz.; two small trumpets, weighing together 5½ oz., of gold, resembling in miniature the trumpets used in Persia at the *nagharkhaneh*, or pavilion, where music is performed at sunset in honour of the shah; two mutilated female trunks—one of a reddish stone, the other of a whitish half-transparent marble, like that of Maragha in Aderbeijan; a vase and a jar of the latter substance, and another very much broken; and a number of offensive and defensive weapons, such as heads of spears, pickforks, crooks, a well-shaped hammer with a hatchet at one end, and some long and narrow spikes. They are all of copper covered with verdigris. It is currently believed that a number of other precious articles were found in the same spot, especially gold and silver coins, but that they had been abstracted by the persons present at the discovery. Human bones of a prodigious size are said also to have been found there. The greater part of these articles were placed in large copper jars, which were fastened to the wall of the subterranean vault in the tumulus by chains; but what has become of them could not be ascertained. Fraser, in his travels along the shores of the Caspian, mentions an Arab legend of a similar discovery made on the spot where Asterabad now stands, in the first ages of the Mahomedan sway in that country. The tumulus in question, which bears the name of *Tu-rung-tepeh*, is an immense artificial mound, on the summit of which stands at present the summer-house of the chief of Asterabad, surrounded by a thick wall. At the foot of it runs a stream of clear water, which takes its rise in the Alburn mountains, and the ground is strewn with old bricks, tiles, and other rubbish, such as are found among some of the ancient ruins of Persian towns.

### LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR

#### THE ENSUING WEEK:—

*Monday.*—Geographical, 8½ p.m.; British Architects, 8 p.m.

*Tuesday.*—Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.; Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ p.m.; Zoological, 8½ p.m.

*Wednesday.*—Medico-Botanical, 8 p.m.; Pharmaceutical, 8½ p.m.

*Thursday.*—Mathematical, 8 p.m.

### FINE ARTS.

*The Hand-Book of Taste; or, How to Observe Works of Art, especially Cartoons, Pictures, and Statues.* By Fabius Pictor. Pp. 119. London, Longman & Co.

At a time when the public is invited to form and express an opinion upon a subject of new and great interest as regards the national arts, we are well pleased to see a volume like this. And we are the more pleased, because such publications are generally merely pithy to the tune of the moment, with an *ad captandū* title, and without a claim to notice even for the moment. But this *Hand-book* is of a very superior character. Its views of the fine arts, their uses and their aims, are just and lofty; they are not for the season, but based on eternal principles and everlasting truth. The plaything of the ignorant, the pretending, and the parrot-mob, is not the temporary theme; but genius, instructing, elevating, and improving humanity through the media of sculpture and painting. In short, the writer displays the right feeling and appreciation of the importance of his subject; and having evidently read and re-

\* They had better send at once to Mr. Hunt, at Regent Street, or Swanage.—Ed. L. G.

flected much upon it, has produced a most appropriate work, which cannot be too carefully considered.

After just and comprehensive general remarks, he thus lays down an immutable canon, which affects every production of art:—

"The sight of any thing beautiful pleases us; but that pleasure ought not to end there: it ought to procure us some positive benefit. Real pleasures are fertile in utility; those which bear no fruit are vain, silly, and deceptive. What would an elegant architectural decoration be, if it merely served to please the eye without any ulterior purpose?—an idle outlay of time and money. Nature has furnished us with wants, thence to provide us with pleasures; to procure us, in short, by means of these wants, some great and positive advantage. By the path of beauty she would lead us on to the temple of virtue."

Nor is the following less directly to the purpose:—

"A painter who invents, composes, and colours subjects which are pretty and pleasing enough in themselves, but produce no effect upon the mind, nor any result beyond the visual gratification of the observer, merits undoubtedly the first rank amongst decorators; but he is not an artist."

The vexed question of Taste is ably handled, and in short compass:—

"It is pretended that taste is innate, and not to be acquired. Never was there a greater error. Taste is a standard formed by experience: *taste is knowledge*. The organisation which constitutes the disposition of an individual is, no doubt, a gift of nature; and that is bestowed in different degrees upon different persons. There are some whose deficient organisation renders them incapable of acquiring any sort of knowledge, and amongst others that knowledge which constitutes taste in art. But no man was ever born with an originality and maturity of judgment which would enable him to pronounce an accurate opinion upon the merits of any really great production of the pencil or chisel, without previous study. *It is easy enough for a government to appoint a committee of taste; but it cannot appoint taste to its committee.*"

Though almost invariably applicable to committees of the kind, we must express our hope and belief that the existing Commission on the Fine Arts will act in a manner to redeem them from the opprobrium. There are men of taste and judgment of their number, and they have the aid of experienced artists as their assessors: they can be biased by no unworthy motives; and therefore it is that we look forward to their acts and decisions with more favourable expectations than we have ever done to any body of a similar kind. But to return to the Handbook.

The writer points out the ineligibility of painful subjects, such as the martyrdom of Saint Agatha in the Pitti Palace at Florence, by Seb. del Piombo, and other paintings, by which horror and not pleasure is produced; and also of allegorical and metaphorical imaginations, which are not understood; and he then proceeds to point out how Nature ought to be studied, and her several and various beauties combined and improved, so as to make an admirable whole. His sequent observations on portraiture are excellent; but as they do not bear closely on our immediate points, we pass to an illustration of Beauty of Form.

"The human body, when neither mutilated nor deformed, exhibits on its surface six hundred and sixty-six parts, including veins, muscles, tendons, nails, and bones. Every one of these parts varies in some respect or other in

every individual, just as every leaf on a tree varies in some point from every other. Each of these parts is, therefore, possessed of a form more or less approaching to, or receding from, the standard of beauty. He who has the greatest number of them in most perfection possesses the greatest natural beauty of form. A statue, on the contrary, composed by selecting from individual nature the choicest example of each one of these six hundred and sixty-six parts, and combining them into a single figure, possesses ideal beauty of form in the most perfect degree. It must, then, be impossible for the sculptor to make even an approximation to this perfection, without a thorough knowledge of external anatomy; nor can the observer appreciate the merits of his works without somewhat of a similar knowledge, or, at least, unless his eye is accustomed to the simple beauty of forms by observation and practice. He cannot even discern them. Are you incredulous? Then make the experiment. Go and look at the Venus, Apollo, or Apollino. Your eye, if unpractised, will distinguish nothing but the most prominent parts. Close the shutters; move a single light round the figure, and you will see that its entire surface is diversified by a thousand delicate undulations, producing light, shadows, and half tint, each circumscribing and defining some different form which constitutes a component part of the whole. If, at the same time, an intelligent friend or artist—not a pretender, but one who really knows—explains to you what each of these forms represents, tells you their anatomical name, shews you wherein their beauty of contour consists, by comparing them with the same parts in ordinary nature, you will then begin to understand why the sculptor's art is prized so highly; what are the difficulties he has to surmount; and why it is, and with what truth, that the Greek artists are universally allowed to have excelled all other nations."

Opposed to this is mannerism, or "that peculiarity of thought and execution which distinguishes one artist from another. It is this which enables you, without the aid of a catalogue, when you enter the Exhibition, to say at once, That is by Prout, that by Hunt, that by Turner, that by Etty, and so on. Now this manner, however perfect it may be according to our own notions of perfection, is yet always defective to a certain extent, because it is not an exact representation of beautiful nature, but the artist's modification of her: hence it follows that the more you have of the individual artist in his works, the less you have of nature;—she recedes exactly in the same proportion as he becomes prominent. When a certain person said to Rivarol, '*Je vous dirai ma manière de penser*,' he replied, '*Dites-moi la pensée, mais sans manière.*'"

The following remark appears to us to be as original as it is correct; and accounts very (un)satisfactorily for the decline of art, and the hope of a great English national school, to date, we trust, from the present day and the efforts now making:—

"When a pupil imitates the manner of his master, instead of nature, he imitates a defect: instead of following the genuine model, he follows an impaired copy at second-hand. Who would give the best description of the battle—one who had been present in the action, or one who had received his account from the narrative of another? If on the manner of his master he adds or engrafs his own peculiar one, there is defect upon defect, or nature at third-hand;—that must be mannerism. This practice, without doubt, contributed materially to

the decline of art in Italy, and militates much against its resurrection. It explains also why it is that the arts rarely flourish for long periods at a time. Pre-eminence is only gained by long and arduous study. As soon as a nation becomes possessed of a multitude of great works, the young artist, finding what he conceives a perfect model prepared to his hands, or perfect as far as human genius is supposed able to make it so, thinks that he may escape the preliminary toil and drudgery which the individual who produced it was compelled to undergo. He becomes an imperfect imitator. But hundreds are soon found able to imitate this model as well as himself; for to do so it only requires a certain degree of mechanical skill. He must strike out something new, to catch the public and distinguish himself. Being deficient in real power, he has recourse to extravagance. For a time the novelty pleases,—the public run mad, and taste is corrupted. This falls at length, and there is a talk of going back to the early practice; but that practice has been neglected so long, that its principles are lost: to acquire it, you must begin again from the fountain-head. This does not pay; so the artist restores the ancient practice by becoming a mere copyist. The galleries of Italy are filled with persons engaged in copying the works of the great masters. But such a custom can never even make a good copyist; for the defects of accident, and the blemishes of time, damp, and neglect, are more easily imitated than the beauties of the original. Fortunately for us in this country, we have never had a school, at least not any worthy of the name: we have therefore nothing to unlearn, but every thing to learn; and necessity is the mother of invention. It is this which encourages reflecting men to hope that our turn will come, and that we may be able to decorate the council-chamber of the nation with productions of British art, in a manner which shall not be unworthy of the building it is proposed to adorn, or of the nation which is inclined to sanction the undertaking. It is thought that the country which has numbered amongst her sons poets, orators, historians, of the very first class, could produce artists of a corresponding merit, if only an opportunity were afforded for the display of their talents. That opportunity the country has afforded; it remains for them to prove that they are equal to it. Much depends upon beginning at the right end; but those who are determined to deserve success will most probably command it."

With this quotation we might effectively conclude; but there are two or three others which have impressed us so strongly, that we cannot withhold them from our readers:—

"Whoever should attempt to represent microscopically the pores and down of the skin, as some of the Dutch painters have done, would produce nothing but littleness; and every littleness displeases. It is a grand style which shews only the great and necessarily component parts of any object. That which is grand pleases us; it does not weary, and appears to exalt us; hence it ought to be studied in every part of a composition, inasmuch as the virtue of art consists in producing the greatest possible effect with the least possible work. This is an excellent maxim, of clear and universal importance; but too often neglected, not only in matters which relate to our mere personal gratification, but also in those which are of higher import, such as medicine, jurisprudence, legislation. In the same manner as our artists forage every province of the arts, and crowd the mingled pro-

ducts into a single work, and so produce a chief-d'œuvre of absurdity, so our doctors string systems of remedies together, and reduce us to corpses; our lawyers give us perpetual motion, and reduce us to mendicacy; and our legislators complicate the machinery of their laws, in order that we may never know what the law is."

Again:—"Nature employs but two metals, iron and copper, for colouring the whole creation. All her variety results from the varied combination of three principal colours: red, yellow, and azure. What a harmony there is in the rainbow! Take away but one of its principal colours—the red, for instance—and the harmony is gone. The ancient painters for a long time employed only these primitive colours; the moderns make use of a considerable number. But with these three, and the addition of black and white, eight hundred and nineteen different combinations may be produced. Hence Apelles and Protogenes might have been as good colourists as Titian or Correggio."

With regard to the claims for distinction and reward which will so soon be before the country, we would join with our accomplished and judicious critic.

"It is (he truly states) necessary to divest yourself of all prejudices or preconceptions, that you may not, like Ixion, mistake a cloud for Juno. Do not allow yourself to be imposed upon by the celebrity of names. A name makes nothing. *Hamlet* or *Othello* would give you equal pleasure if they had been anonymous publications. It would be well if all works were anonymous: conceive that they are so; and create for yourself a just *coup-d'œil* by constant exercise, which will teach you how to discern the slightest variation in the forms, proportions, attitudes, accessories, characters, and expression. After all, a good copy is better than a bad original. If the name of the artist is not allowed to influence your judgment, neither should you permit your reason to be enslaved by submitting it to the dictation of others. How seldom is it that a man's taste is formed upon his own observations! Most men see things, not in their own colours, but in those which others have ascribed to them; they see with other men's eyes. 'Take your own sentiments for your guide,' said the oracle to Cicero, 'and not the opinion of the vulgar.' When you meet with one who has the reputation of being a 'connoisseur,' whose knowledge is confined to the science of terms, stories, anecdotes of the lives of artists, the vicissitudes which their works have undergone, their prices, their scarcity, and their celebrity—who sweeps his hand with a peculiar sort of air over some little spot in some great picture, or imitates with his fore-finger the motion of the brush, moving and circulating over the canvass as it would do in the hands of an able artist, while his eyebrows arch themselves to the skies at the mention of a name,—be sure that that man is an impostor: he may be a successful picture-dealer, but he is not an intelligent observer; nor should you take him for your guide with any greater confidence than you would choose to bestow upon a critic whose knowledge of genuine poetry was confined to the art of discerning the autograph of every author from a forgery. Do not permit yourself to be deceived by show and glare, nor conceive that the work which makes the greatest impression upon you at the first glance is therefore the best. This tells only at the Exhibition, where every thing is seen through a false medium, distracted as the eye must be by the bustle of

company, the gaudy dresses, the glitter of frames upon the wall, and the chaos of colours. An artist tones his picture there for the express purpose of attracting attention, to make it prominent by casting its neighbour into shade. This is called 'demolishing a rival.' When Horace Walpole was asked to give his opinion upon a lady of brilliant wit and showy manners, the lioness of a party, who was applauded and flattered by all the circle round her, he only turned to his friend and said, 'But what's the use of all this at home?' Again; that which astonishes always diminishes in effect every fresh time you recur to it; whereas real worth is unassuming, is often overlooked at first, but gradually gains upon you, unfolds new beauties, or presents the same ones in a still more pleasing aspect, as often as you revisit it. The *Paradise Lost* was sold for 10*l.*, and remained neglected for many years after its publication; but now we never tire with reading it; and the oftener read, the more it charms. Mademoiselle de Launay, afterwards Madame de Staël, who had a niece living with her possessed of considerable personal beauty, used to say, 'The men come to see Sophia, but they stay to converse with me.' We too go to see the pictures at the Exhibition. How many of them are there with which we should wish to stay and converse? Finally; if you would have good artists and great works, never consent to accept the merits of execution for the intrinsic merits of a work. The value of a poem does not consist in hot-pressed paper and Baskerville types. If a painting has no merit beyond its beauty, it has failed of its end; if none but its colouring, it has failed in its means. To be perfect, it must be a beautiful as well as a good painting; and it cannot be a good picture unless it improves and instructs at the same time that it pleases; for it is not the eye which discerneth beauty, but the intellect, as was said by Euripides more than two thousand years ago:—

Οὐ γὰρ ὁφθαλμὸς τὸ μαρτυρὸν κρινόν ἴσται, ἀλλ' ὁ νοῦς."

### THE DRAMA.

#### THE MACREADY TESTIMONIAL.

THIS well-earned testimony of public esteem was presented to Mr. Macready, at Willis's Rooms, on Monday,—H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge doing him the honour to be the organ of what we may truly call the nation's voice on the occasion. The platform was occupied by many of the subscribers and distinguished personal friends of Mr. Macready, and the entire body of the room, as well as the gallery, occupied by elegantly dressed ladies and gentlemen who had assembled to witness the ceremony and do him honour. The piece of plate was on a stand near the royal Duke, and presented a rich and handsome appearance. At the appointed hour precisely H. R. H. addressed Mr. Macready in a feeling manner; and, after alluding to the loss of the Duke of Sussex, who was to have performed this office, said—pointing to the memorial—"It is a fitting compliment to your great merits, not only as a manager, but as one of the best actors of this age or country. Your management of the theatre has been distinguished by an attempt, in which you have to a certain degree succeeded in establishing a pure and better taste. We are grateful to you for the exertions you have made, which, although perhaps they have not realised all that you anticipated or that they could have wished, have tended to an improvement of the national taste, and raised the theatre from its previous degradation. I look upon the drama, when properly conducted, as most

advantageous to the public; and I think that dramatic representations, when properly chosen, have a strong influence upon morality. I can only regret that the exertions made by you have not been attended with the pecuniary success which you deserve. We regret exceedingly that you have been obliged, in justice to yourself, to give up the management of a national theatre, which you are so well fitted to conduct, not only with credit to yourself but with benefit to the public. You have at least this consolation, that you carry with you the good wishes of all those who have witnessed and applauded your exertions; and they still hope to see you resume that distinguished station, in which you have done your duty as an honest man, and a restorer of the legitimate drama. It only remains for me to present to you this testimonial as a token of the appreciation of your services by the friends and supporters of the national drama, and by the public in general."

In reply Mr. Macready, evidently labouring under deep emotion, expressed his strong personal sense of the honour thus publicly awarded and royally conferred; and proceeding to the more general matter, spoke as follows:—

"To all who have honoured me by registering their names in the cause of the drama, I return my warmest thanks. I thank them for their generous sympathy in my endeavours to elevate my art. I thank them for this substantial memorial of their appreciation of my motives. I thank them for this crowning gift, which assures me, that whatever may have been the pecuniary results of my attempts to redeem the drama, I have secured some portion of public confidence. If, during my career as manager, it was my lot to meet with some difficulties, I have been sustained and cheered on by the approval and support of most indulgent and discerning patrons. By those who regard all things with the eye of Mammon, ever looking downwards, it may have been, indeed it has been, hinted that I was actuated only by sordid motives; but, in spite of all their ungenerous insinuations, I can repose in this proud assurance of your approval. I can look back without repining at the experiment made at Covent Garden Theatre during my management of it, and subsequently renewed at Drury Lane. The result is not for me to speak about. You cannot have forgotten the state of the theatre in 1837—it is notorious. I thought a favourable opportunity was then presented for the restoration of the national drama—for raising my degraded art. I made the attempt, though at the prospect—I may say indeed the certainty—of a diminution of income. I was not without hopes that the experiment would have answered my expectations; and I trust that even now it has in some degree succeeded. I have been encouraged and cheered on by the respectable portion of the public press, although there were some writers pleased to assert that my motives were not altogether disinterested. They hinted that I resorted to these means only to entrap favour, but I beg to assure those gentlemen that it was not by any such means that I sought to succeed. I aimed at elevating every thing represented on the stage. I sought to furnish the dramas in which the genius and talents of the players, the painters, and the musicians, could be combined. I hoped to introduce them successively as illustrators of the poet. It was my object to carry upwards all the parts of a drama, the poet being the first consideration, but that no actor, however subordinate, might not help to elevate his art with himself. I feel myself unequal to say all I



could wish to say. I have only now to return to your royal highness my most grateful thanks for this proof of public confidence in my motives. This beautiful memorial of public approbation of my humble efforts in the cause of the drama I must regard as the augury of a brighter era. It encourages me to hope that that cause will yet be efficiently supported in a well-regulated theatre. Once more, accept my best thanks—I might vary my phrase, but I will only reiterate the expression of that gratitude which your kindness has inspired, and which will be ever engraven on my heart."

The whole scene was very gratifying; and thanks having been voted by acclamation to his royal highness, the company retired.

**Her Majesty's Theatre.**—Fornasari took a benefit on Thursday. The two first acts of *Belisario*, the last act of *Lucrezia di Borgia*, and a new ballet, *L'ondine*, were the entertainments. The latter only we have now to notice. It is by Perrot, and somewhat of the sylphide story, substituting, however, a naiad for a sylph, and water and grotto for woodland scenery. Cerito was the water-nymph in love with the fisherman (Perrot), engaged to a peasant girl (Guy Stephan). The graceful and rapid movements of the former in the cottage, with the lovers and the mother of the girl, to tease and to escape observation, were inimitable: her dance in the moonbeam was most poetical and beautiful; the scarf figures, and groupings, Cerito also, with assistants, were picturesque; and her struggles against the heaviness of her assumed mortality, and her efforts to dance in her spirit nature, were prettily conceived and well executed. In the latter, Perrot was her partner. We rejoice at his recovery; but he does not appear to have regained his old confidence in his muscles and tendons. Guy Stephan is greatly improved, and is continually advancing in her profession. In *L'ondine* she was really admirable, and drew down most deservedly general applause; the activity and wonderful springing of St. Leon, however, elicited the only encore. The several peasant dances, especially the multitudinous tarantella, and those of the water-nymphs, were exceedingly good. Altogether the ballet was beautiful, and with, perhaps, some slight curtailment, will for the remainder of the season be first favourite. We cannot, however, conclude without expressing our surprise and praise at the scenic effects produced in so confined a space; we may especially mention the fête of the Madonna, the passage of the boat across the lake followed underneath by the nymphs, and the concluding scene of the fountains.

**St. James's Theatre.**—On Wednesday evening M. Bouffé was honoured with a visit from the Queen, to witness the performance of two of his most popular characters; and if her majesty's attention be any criterion of the pleasure she experienced in his consummate skill, the actor had every reason to feel satisfied. The house was well attended, but not too full; and the evening's entertainments were just suited to send such an audience away unwearied and delighted. On Wednesday, we perceive, Mr. Mitchell's benefit is announced, and the entertainments are admirably chosen; but independently of that, we should say that no caterer for the public amusement ever better deserved a bumper on his own account, as an acknowledgment of his enterprise and unwearied zeal.

**New Strand Theatre.**—With the exception of the *Rights of Woman*, judiciously retained, and in which Mrs. Stirling and Mr. Maywood are so excellent, the whole of the performances

here since our last have been changed. The novelties, however, are *Maggie Lauder*, a Caledonian ballet, and a burletta called *Nice Young Ladies*. The dancers are juveniles; and although some of them are clever, the ballet may be considerably curtailed, we think, with advantage. The burletta is a poor production.

**Astley's Amphitheatre.**—Full houses! full houses! full houses! verily Mr. Batty must be making a good thing of it, and this week has been especially attractive; for, in addition to the *Affghan War*, we have had the *Triumphs of Waterloo*, a ceaseless change of scenes in the circle, and a good after-piece, called *Hearne the Hunter*, and founded on Ainsworth's *Windsor Castle*.

**Hanover-Square Rooms.**—Signor Camillo Sivori thrice delighted his hearers at his concert on the 16th inst. Since Paganini no violinist has so completely carried his audience with him, or elicited such general and hearty cheers. And this, as we have before noticed, is not the exploit of the trickster, or of the practised instrumentalist only, but the magic power of the musician, for we can call it nothing else. In Sivori's hands the violin gives forth tones imitative of all instruments, the perfection of execution, which are irresistibly affecting. But we must bestow some of our praise on a new pianist, at least new to London audiences, Mr. C. Hallé. He plays with precision, skill, and taste. We were most highly gratified with him in Beethoven's first movement of grand concerto in E flat. And here we cannot omit to mention our approval of the manner in which the splendid orchestra accompanied in this and throughout the whole of the performances. Signor Puzzi played a fantasia; and Miss Birch, Mdle. Nissen, and Signor F. Lablache and Herr Staudigl, were the vocalists.

**Choral Meeting.**—On Wednesday evening there was a gathering of Hullah's classes at Exeter Hall, principally of the upper schools. The first part of the exercises consisted of sacred music, ending with a hymn for the Prince of Wales, music by Haydn, words by Chorley. Lord Wharnclyffe addressed the meeting, congratulating them on their attainments.

## SKETCHES OF SOCIETY. THE COCKNEY CATECHISM, OR LONDON ONE LIE! LESSON XXIV.

*Weights and Measures: important reform. British Brands—their composition and imposition. On them and on Wines how to make Money HONESTLY (?)*

**Aunt Margery.** Ha, ha, the plot thickens more and more; and the cruel will be slab enough before we have done:

"Double, double  
Toil and trouble,  
Fire burn and cauldron bubble!"

**Pri.** What is the matter now; nothing in the monomania way, I hope?

**Aunt M.** You saucy thing: may not I quote Shakspeare without provoking your freedom of speech? I am afraid I spoil you.

**Phi.** No, no, dearest aunt. It would be a pity to spoil us, when you are shewing how many spoilt things are in London already.

**Aunt M.** Well, I trust my indulgence will only quicken your intellects, without encouraging undue presumption. But, what do you think? Here, in the city, are the old leet-juries, the utter inefficiency of which I pointed out (Lesson XVI., p. 290) done away with, and active inspectors, with adequate powers, appointed by the Court of Aldermen in their

place to examine weights and measures, and bring those who fraudulently use them to punishment.

**Pri.** May like good flow from all your exposures!

**Aunt M.** Much doubtless will do so; but this one step is a great gain for the poorer classes of the capital. At the Mansion House, on Saturday, one butcher in Petticoat Lane, convicted of selling meat, only three ounces in the pound short of weight, by a trick of the scales (which he declared upon his honour to be a mistake), was fined 60s., or 1l. per ounce for the inaccuracy, and 3s. costs. Another worthy, of Aldgate High Street,—whose blundering to the same extent, of upwards of 3 oz. per lb., arose from the accidental presence of a hook in the chain by which the weights were suspended,—was complimented by the magistrate as having effected "a complete robbery," and mulcted to the same tune of three pounds three shillings.

**Phi.** Sterling, I hope; and neither scale nor hook to diminish the lawful amount.

**Aunt M.** No fear of that; and my great wish is that these inspectors may go on steadily and diligently in the discharge of their important duty—the protection of the poor. Those who are pinched for food hardly know how grievously they are preyed upon by the harpies of the Sunday horse-and-shay class.

**Pri.** What are the powers of the inspectors?

**Aunt M.** They need give no warning, as heretofore, to put the dishonest on their guard, but can visit the shops at all seasonable hours, and detect the nefarious practices in their full operation. The very fear of them will do some good; and if they perform the usual parts of new brooms, and sweep clean, the benefit to the humbler population will be incalculable—thousands and tens of thousands of lbs. of butcher's meat, bread, cheese, butter, bacon, and every other necessary of life, on every Saturday night in the long year.

**Phi.** It is to be desired that they could also seize corrupt and adulterated articles.

**Aunt M.** One reform may lead to another; but we must return to our last week's Lesson. You remember that I told you of the compound wines being "sweetened with loaf-sugar, and fortified with British brandy, and coloured with chemical dyes" (p. 403).

**Pri.** Yes, perfectly.

**Aunt M.** Of this deleterious compound I will give you some particulars.

**Phi.** Thanks.

**Aunt M.** British brandy is mere rectified Scotch or Irish corn-spirit, flavoured with various drugs, and coloured with burnt sugar. Rectification consists in removing the empyreumatic oil with which malt-spirit is strongly impregnated in the first distillation, which oil is commonly called *faints*, and gives a disgusting taste and smell to the spirit. Chalk, animal charcoal, quick-lime, dry sugar, and various alkalies, are frequently mixed with the raw spirit to take up this essential oil in the redistillation, which should proceed as slowly as possible in order to keep back the faints. To the rectified corn-spirit is added, sweet-spirit of nitre, cassia-buds ground, bitter almond-oil, orris-root, vinegar, and many other drugs, every maker having a different receipt; and the mixture, when clear, is coloured with burnt sugar, or catechu (of old called Japan earth). \* What

\* McCulloch (*Dictionary of Commerce*) informs us that this produce from the Mimosa, or more properly the *Acacia catechu* and the *Uncaria gambir* is astringent, leaving behind a taste of sweetness, and almost wholly soluble in water. It contains a larger proportion of tannin than any other known astringent

is known by the name of oil of wine (made from cakes of dry foreign wine-lees) is, I am informed, reckoned the best flavouring: a few, however, even mix a small quantity of real brandy, which, of course, makes the best of all imitations.

*Pri.* But as to price?

*Aunt M.* The present price of the Scotch and Irish corn-spirits, from which British brandy is made, is from 9s. to 9s. 6d. per gallon 10 per cent over proof duty paid, the duty being 7s. 6d. per gallon proof: the cost of the flavouring drugs is comparatively trifling, and the maker is allowed by the excise for a loss in rectification. At the strength he sells it (about 15 per cent under proof) it does not cost him altogether more than 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. per gallon, while he gets from the dealer 13s. to 15s., and from the public 18s., and sometimes even more.

*Pri.* I don't understand the term proof.\*

*Aunt M.* Proof and over proof are applied to all simple spirits, which may be considered in their different states of low wines, proof-spirits, and alcohol. The first contains only one-sixth of spirit to five-sixths of water. Proof-spirits contain one-half of totally inflammable spirit; and alcohol, if pure, consists wholly of spirit, and will burn away to the last drop.

*Pri.* The spirit-trade seems to be as great an imposition as the wine-trade.†

*Aunt M.* There is not a pin to choose between them. The home-made compounds called Brandies have of late years become an article of vast consumption, to the material injury of

substance—1 lb. being, according to Mr. Purkis, equivalent to 7 or 8 lbs. of oak-bark for tanning leather (a pretty recommendation to the inside of human beings!).

\* Large quantities of brandy are mixed with all the foreign wines in common use in this country in preparing them for our market; and the following extract from the table of the alcoholic strength of foreign wines, prepared from the experiments of Professor Brande, may be interesting.

	Pure alcohol per cent.
Burgundy, average of 4 samples	14.37
Champagne " "	12.61
Roussillon " "	19.00
Claret " "	17.11 to 12.91
Sherry " "	19.17
Tort. . . . . average of 7 samples	22.96
Lisbon " "	18.94
Madeira, " "	22.27
Cape . . . . . average of 3 samples	20.51
Marsala, " of 2	25.09

† Reference to the following statement, showing the present market-prices of the wines exhibited in the London, and the duty payable on each, will enable the reader to see at a glance the profit obtained by the dealer in using them as a substitute for the wines they are made to represent:—

A fair sherry fit for ordinary purposes can be bought for 20s. the butt of 108 gallons: the duty on this, 5s. 9d. per gallon, will be 31s. 1s.: thus, without taking the charge for carting from the docks into account, will amount to 51s. 1s. for the 108 gallons duty paid. A butt will run about 52 dozens, which will bring the wine out at about 20s. per dozen, to which has to be added 4s. per dozen for bottles, corks, and bottling expenses. The wine will, therefore, stand the merchant in 24s. per dozen, bottles included, at which price we see it daily advertised to be sold, even in small quantities. In order to make up a wine that he can sell at a profit at 24s. per dozen, the dealer resorts to the following mixture:—

Say three pipes of Stein Cape, racked from their lees, at 16s. per pipe, of 92 gallons	£48 0 0
Duty on above, at 2s. 11d. per gallon	40 5 0
One butt of sherry, at 10s. per butt	20 0 0
Duty on ditto	31 1 0

Total . . . . . £139 6 0

The above will yield about 190 dozens of wine, which will stand in about 14s. 6d. the dozen, to which is to be added about 3s. per dozen for bottles (second-hand washed bottles are used for these wines); thus this butt will not stand in more than from 17s. 6d. to 18s. per dozen, bottles included, so that the dealer can well afford it at 24s. It would be well if only such mixtures as the above were given to the public as cheap sherry.

the revenue, as well as to the consumer, upon whom they are foisted, mixed with and often entirely substituted for French brandy.

*Pri.* Pray tell us about this fraud.

*Aunt M.* Commencing with the wholesale dealers in Foreign and British spirits, I find that, in spite of the *surveillance* of the excise and the regulation that British and foreign spirits may not be kept in the same vaults, they still find means to mix British with foreign brandy, selling the mixed article at a lower price than they could possibly buy the genuine article at, in ever so large a quantity. This mixed spirit finds consumers almost entirely in private families and the better class of taverns, as the publicans, with, I am sorry to say, but very few exceptions, never think of selling French brandy, but give their customers the British, taking good care, of course, to charge the price of the foreign for which they sell it. As the British brandy pays a duty of only 7s. 10d., while the French pays no less than 22s. 10d. per proof gallon, this, as I have noticed, must occasion a great annual loss to the revenue, besides being a direct fraud upon the consumer, who pays for the foreign article, which is frequently ordered medicinally by the faculty, and receives a cheap corn-spirit, which, notwithstanding the paid chemical puffs so pompously set forth in the advertisements of the British brandy-makers, is highly injurious to health.

*Pri.* But what are the excise-officers doing to permit this?

*Aunt M.* So extremely lax is the attention of the excise with respect to the article of British brandy, that it is well known in the trade that some of the houses engaged in it offer to send it out with an excise permit as *foreign*. A superior pale article is also prepared by mixing a small proportion of French brandy with the British, which is then put into foreign bottles, with tin foil over the corks; and, being packed in cases, made with marks, &c. to imitate the French, is sold at public sales, &c. &c., and fetches the price, or nearly so, of the fine pale French case-brandy.\*

## ORIGINAL POETRY.

### THE DAWN.

'Tis sweet when the twilight descends like a maiden,  
With star-sandall'd feet and cloud-mantle of grey;  
When the skies seem with grandeur and mystery laden,  
But there's nothing so sweet as the dawn of the day.

O, if there's an hour to man's spirit appealing,  
An hour that can all his devotion repay,  
'Tis when harmony, beauty, and grace, are revealing  
Their charms at the dawn, the bright dawn of the day!

For it beam'd on the birth of Eve's fairest of daughters,  
It wrok the first branch of the tree's matrimony;  
When the Spirit of God moved the face of the waters  
All Eden lay blest in the dawn of the day.

\* A remedy might soon be found for this monstrous fraud: let but the excise exert proper vigilance over the British brandy-manufacture; and, above all, let no dealer, tavern-keeper, or publican, be allowed to trade in both the British and foreign article, and this gross imposition would die a natural death. And, let it be remembered, such a regulation could not be looked on as an act of oppression by the dealer, who, if you ask him, will tell you, with every appearance of honest indignation, that he does not keep such an article as British brandy in the house, although he may have at the very moment just served you with some of it; while, on the other hand, those who might still prefer to deal in it, could do so; and, doing so openly, would of course be obliged to sell it at a lower price, which would obtain for them the custom of that large portion of the public who look at price and quality rather than quality, and who would be driven away (as regards brandy) from those houses which, for their own character's sake, would in this case be compelled to vend the genuine article.

Though the Noon, like a monarch enthroned, may assemble  
His sun-banner'd hosts in their gorgeous array;  
Though the Moon may win hearts, they are hearts  
that dissemble;

For there's nothing so fair as the dawn of the day.  
The dawn of the day, when the old man is waking,  
World-weary and languid, bereft of each stay;  
When he turns to a dawn yet immortally breaking,  
The God-promised dawn of a heavenly day.

O, if harmony, beauty, and freshness, are blending  
Their charms for the dawn of our care-compass'd way,  
What bliss must be theirs who, through Jesus ascend,  
Behold with archangels the dawn of His day!

CHARLES SWAIN.

## VARIETIES.

*Relievo Map of England and Wales.* (Dobbs and Co.)—It is eminently characteristic of English ingenuity and enterprise, that almost every improvement introduced amongst us is speedily carried farther and farther on the road to perfection. This embossed Map is a useful and beautiful illustration of the fact—the first, it is announced, of an intended series. What with the proportionate elevations of the mountains and the aid of colour, the eye at once distinguishes all the principal features of the geography of the land; and we obtain at a glance as much information as it would take us days to gather from description or reading. The design is excellent, and the execution most laudable.

*The Duke of Sussex's Plate.*—Messrs. Christie and Manson's Rooms have been quite a crowded promenade during the early days of the week. Many of the articles are rare and curious, extrinsic of their late possessor; and we doubt not they will realise a very considerable amount—as is much to be wished for many a good reason. The sale, for seventeen days, including three at the close devoted to pipes, tobacco, and cigars alone, and one for snuff-boxes, has been proceeding with great spirit during Thursday and Friday, when some of the most curious plate brought high prices. Today will be more interesting to art, comprising pictures and miniatures. It is a melancholy thing to see the rich jewels of noble orders among the articles of a public auction.

*Mr. Pratt's Gallery of Ancient Furniture and Works of Art* is really among the sights of London best worth seeing. So various, "rich and rare" an assemblage of gorgeous articles, of the fashions of several countries and centuries, as meet the eye in his splendid room in Bond Street, has never, we should think, been collected by the enterprise of an individual tradesman.

*The Botanical Gardens in the Regent's Park* have had some gala-days lately; and are, we believe, announced for other exhibitions.

*The Wellington Statues.*—At the Mansion House, on Saturday, the committee on the civic statue did not, in the absence of a particular deed or contract (which could not be obtained on the instant) find itself in a position to vote the surplus metal from the government gift to them to the grand military equestrian group of the Duke now casting for the west end. We presume that on its production at the next meeting that destination will be unanimously agreed to.

*The Flying Machine,* it is currently reported, was heard to clap its wings during the evening of Thursday, the 15th; but some of the neighbours say the noise was made by a large bat, and others by a pigeon, with a curious loose paper about it, from the cup at Ascot. The lat-

ter may have descended from the manufactured pigeon of Archytas, which flew so beautifully. Not to mention Icarus, as a pre-example of flight by artificial means, a contemporary has pointed out Regiomontanus' Iron-fly, which could fly; and surely we can do as much with iron now as they could then. We shall see, as Mr. Henson announces a flight early in autumn from Hyde Park.

The Horticultural Fête, last Saturday, enjoyed the benefit of the change of weather and our "London three glorious days;" and was visited by some ten thousand persons. The flower-show was fine, though, in many cases, the nipping incongeniality of the season was apparent; and the fruits were superb to view, whether or no the same cause might deteriorate their taste. The company seemed much to enjoy the promenade, which was enlivened by military bands discoursing "most eloquent music;" and the whole went off in excellent style, as it ought to do when any thing like 25000, is received for admission to a fête.

**News-vendors' Benevolent Association.**—The fourth annual meeting of this well-intentioned society was held on Wednesday, when the report of the past year was read. From this we learn that the affairs of the institution are not in so flourishing a condition as could be wished, the expenditure being quite as much as the income; but hopes are confidently expressed for the future, which we trust may be realised or the sake of the useful and hard-working classes for whom the charity has been formed.

An "Extraordinary Case!"—The newspapers, under this title, give an account of a coroner's inquest upon a woman, aged 52, at the Yorkshire Stingo, who had neither eyes, nose, nor mouth, nor "even sockets for the eyes," and who yet, wonderful to relate, had been "fourteen years blind!"

**Prussian Statistics.**—Population at the close of 1840, 14,928,501. In 1841 the excess of births, 176,249; and in 1842, 188,521. Total, at the end of 1842, 15,293,271.

## LITERARY NOVELTIES.

### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

A Treatise on Food and Diet; with Observations on Dietetical Regimen, by J. Pereira, M.D. 8vo, 16s.—Memoirs of the Marquis of Pombal; with Extracts from his Writings, by J. Smith, Esq., 2 vols. 8vo, 21s.—The History of Ancient America anterior to the time of Columbus, by G. Jones, Vol. I. The Tyrian Era, roy. 8vo, 30s.—The Art of Living, by Dr. H. Duhring, post 8vo, 5s.—Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London, Part X. 1842, 8vo, 6s.—Sermons on the Books of Joel, Jonah, &c., by the Rev. J. Randall, 8vo, 10s. 6d.—Office of Eucharistism, by the Rev. E. Lake, D.D. 31st edit. 32mo, 2s.—The English Universities, from the German of V. A. Huber, edited by F. W. Newman, 3 vols. 8vo, 52 illustrations, 21. 10s.—Marmaduke Wyll, by H. W. Herbert, 3 vols. post 8vo, 11. 11s. 6d.—The History of Etruria, by Mrs. H. Gray, Part I., post 8vo, 12s.—A Condensed Commentary on the Registration of Voters Act, by S. G. Grady, 12mo, 6s.—Eusebius on the Theophania, translated by Prof. Lee, 8vo, 11s.—The Closing Events of the Campaign in China, by Capt. G. G. Loch, post 8vo, 8s. 6d.—Murray's Hand-Book for Travellers in France, post 8vo, 12s.—Foreign Light, Part 8, Schlosser's History of the Eighteenth Century, translated by D. Davison, Part I., 8vo, 5s.—Markland's Remarks on English Churches, 3d edit. fcp. 6s. 6d.—Millennium Eve; a Poem, post 8vo, 9s. 6d.—Dissertation on the Seals and Trumpets of the Apocalypse, by W. Cunningham, 4th edit. 8vo, 14s.—Hutchinson's Spirit of Masonry, new edit. by G. Oliver, 12mo, 7s. 6d.—Steam-Voyage on the Seine, the Moselle, and the Rhine, by M. J. Quin, 2 vols. post 8vo, 21s.—Jorroek's Jaunts and Jollities, 2d edit. 8vo, 25s.—S. Pearsall's Hymns of the Church, pointed, 18mo, 2s.—Short-Hand New Testament, by G. Odell, 12mo, 15s.—The Intellectual English Grammar, by G. Turner, 18mo, 1s. 6d.—Ancient History, remodelled from Rollin by Mary Shoolbred, 3 vols, 12mo, 15s.—The Wrongs of Women, Part I, by

Charlotte Elizabeth, 18mo, 2s.—Productive Farming, by Joseph Smith, 12mo, 3s. 6d.—Braithwaite's Retrospect of Medicine, Part 7, 12mo, 5s. 6d.—The Home-Treasury: Little Red Riding-Hood, illustrated, 2s. plain; 3s. 6d. coloured. Ditto, Bible Events, illustrated by Holbein, 32s. 6d. plain; 3s. 6d. coloured.—Scenes and Incidents of Foreign Travel, 3 Series, fcp. 4s. each.—Tales of Love and Romance, 12mo, 2s. 6d.—Chambers's Educational Course: Key to Algebra, 2s. 6d. cloth.—Biblical Cabinet, Vol. 43, A Historical-Geographical Account of Palestine, by D. J. F. Röhr, fcp. 6s.—Registration of Voters Act, by C. Woods, roy. 8vo, 3s. 6d.—Registration of Voters Act, with Introduction and Index, by C. G. Pridaue, 12mo, 3s. 6d.—History of Gustavus Vasa, by J. von Archenholz, translated from the German, roy. 8vo, 11. 6d.

## METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1843.

June.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday . . . 8	From 48 to 62	29.41 to 29.39
Friday . . . 9	" 50 " 61	29.34 " 29.37
Saturday . . . 10	" 49 " 64	29.86 " 29.69
Sunday . . . 11	" 48 " 64	29.97 stationary.
Monday . . . 12	" 47 " 57	29.95 " 29.92
Tuesday . . . 13	" 47 " 55	29.90 " 29.75
Wednesday . . 14	" 53 " 61	29.82 " 29.85
Thursday . . . 15	" 55 " 69	29.94 " 29.93
Friday . . . 16	" 48 " 69	29.90 stationary.
Saturday . . . 17	" 46 " 72	29.96 " 29.95
Sunday . . . 18	" 50 " 72	29.90 " 29.83
Monday . . . 19	" 50 " 58	29.89 " 29.80
Tuesday . . . 20	" 49 " 55	30.00 " 30.10
Wednesday . . 21	" 40 " 72	30.09 " 30.00

Wind S.W. till the morning of the 10th; N. and N.E. from the 10th till the morning of the 21st, when it was S.W. Cloudy, with frequent showers, till the 15th, since generally fine. Rain fallen, .9 of an inch.

**Edmonton.** CHABLES HENRY ADAMS.  
Latitude, 51° 37' 33" north.  
Longitude, 3 51 west of Greenwich.

## DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.

[This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1843.	h. m. a.	1843.	h. m. a.
June 24 . . . 19	1 54.6	June 28 . . . 19	2 45.5
25 . . . 3	3 5.5	29 . . . 3	2 57.8
26 . . . 3	3 5.5	30 . . . 3	3 9.9
27 . . . 2	3 30.0		

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

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**HENDRIE'S OLD BROWN WINDSOR SOAP**, so long celebrated for improvement, retains its superiority as a perfectly mild emollient soap, highly salutary to the skin, possessing an aromatic and lasting perfume: each Packet is labelled with Perkins's steel plate of Windsor Castle.

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**HENDRIE'S OLD CREAM OF ROSE**, prepared in great perfection.

**IMPROVED SCORCHING DROPS**, for removing greasy spots from Silks.

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E. J. DENT, sole Patentee, 82 Strand, and 35 Cockspur Street, by special appointment Chronometer, Watch, and Clockmaker to Her Majesty the Queen, and His Royal Highness Prince Albert, begs leave to announce to the public, that he has recently received the old-established house, 35 COCKSPUR STREET, with an extensive new stock of ENGLISH and FOREIGN WATCHES and CLOCKS. The English stock has received, during their progress of Manufacture, the personal attention of E. J. Dent; and the Foreign, his greatest care in their selection, and subsequent examination and adjustment. E. J. Dent's predecessors, Emery and Record, were natives of Switzerland, and the house is well known to have had an extensive foreign correspondence for nearly a century. Through their connexion, E. J. D. has been enabled to extend his Continental associations, and to enter into arrangements with the first foreign Artists for the disposal in England of their particular manufacture. The public will therefore have the opportunity of selecting from the largest stock of perhaps the best English and of the most rare and choice of foreign productions.

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Age.	1st period of 3 years.	2d period of 3 years.	3d period of 3 years.	4th period of 3 years.	Remainder of 10 years.
27	1 3 7	1 8 7	1 15 9	2 4 6	2 14 10

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## LITERATURE AND ART.

### BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.

—The Gallery is open daily from Ten in the Morning until Six in the Evening, with one Room containing the Works of Sir Joshua Reynolds: the next of ANCIENT MASTERS; and the third with DECEASED BRITISH ARTISTS.

Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 1s.

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Admission (from Eight o'Clock till Seven), One Shilling; Catalogue, One Shilling.

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## THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THIS Society is now open at their GALLERY, Fifty-three Pall Mall, next the British Institution, from Nine o'Clock till dusk.

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Painted on 170 square feet of canvas, and containing Portraits of all the Members of Parliament; also a Portrait of her Majesty Queen Victoria; and various other Works, forming a collection of more than 800 Portraits of eminent Personages of the present day.

Open from Ten till dusk. At the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

Admission, One Shilling.

University of London.

## THE FIRST EXAMINATION for the DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF MEDICINE for the current year, is appointed to commence on MONDAY, the 7th of August.

The Certificates required must be transmitted to the Registrar fourteen days before the Examination begins.

By order of the Senate,

R. W. ROTHMAN, Registrar.

Somerset House, 16th June, 1845.

Queen's College for Ladies, Glasgow.

## THIS Institution will re-open on TUESDAY, 1st August, for the PREPARATORY COURSE; and on THURSDAY, 24th October, for the WINTER SESSION.

Programmes are now ready, and may be had at the Institution; or by letter, post-paid, addressed to the Secretary.

The Directors are prepared to recommend several Ladies, with whom Pupils from a distance may be placed as Boarders.

By Order of Committee,

ALEX. J. P. DORSEY, Secretary.



## TO ARTISTS.—ART-UNION OF

LONDON.—SIXTY POUNDS will be given for the best consecutive Series of not less than TEN DESIGNS IN OUTLINE (say, twelve inches by eight). The subject is left at the option of the artist, but must be illustrative of some epoch in Sacred or British History, or be taken from the work of an English author. Simplicity of composition, expressive beauty of form, and power of execution are the qualities which the Committee are anxious to realise in this series. If it should be deemed expedient to prepare the compositions selected, the Artist will receive a further remuneration to superintend the publication.

The Drawings, accompanied by a sealed letter, containing the name and address of the Artist, must be forwarded to the Honorary Secretaries on or before Lady-Day, 1844.

GEORGE GODWIN,  
LEWIS POCOCK,

Hon. Secs.

4 Trafalgar Square, June 20, 1843.

## ROYAL COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS.

Whitehall, 16th June, 1843.

## HER Majesty's Commissioners hereby give

notice—  
1. That whereas various Windows in the New Palace at Westminster will be decorated with Stained Glass, Artists are invited to send specimens in this department of art, to be exhibited for the purpose of assisting the Commissioners in the selection of persons to be employed.

2. The specimens to be sent in the course of the first week in March, 1844, to a place of exhibition hereafter to be appointed.  
3. The specimens are required to be designed in general accordance with the style of architecture and decoration adopted in the New Palace. Outlines in Lithography, shewing the dimensions of the windows, may be obtained at the Architect's Office in New Palace Yard.

4. Each exhibitor is required to send one and not more than two colored designs for an entire window, drawn to the scale adopted in the outline, viz. two inches to a foot; and one specimen of Stained Glass, not exceeding six feet in the longest dimension, representing a part of such design in the full proportion. Such specimen of Stained Glass to be placed up in lead, and framed in wood.  
5. The objects forming the details of decoration may be either figures or heraldic devices relating to the Royal Families of England, or a union of the two, and may be accompanied by borders, dispersed grounds, legends, and similar enrichments.

6. The invitation to send specimens for the proposed exhibition is confined to British Artists, including foreigners who may have resided ten years or upwards in the United Kingdom.  
7. Artists who propose to exhibit are required to signify their intention to the Secretary on or before the 1st of January, 1844.

By command of the Commissioners,

C. L. EASTLAKE, Secretary.

## ROYAL COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS.

Whitehall, 16th June, 1843.

## HER Majesty's Commissioners hereby give

notice—  
1. That whereas Carve-work in Wood will be required for various parts of the New Palace at Westminster, and the first instance for the doors of the House of Lords, Artists are invited to send specimens in this department of art, to be exhibited for the purpose of assisting the Commissioners in the selection of persons to be employed.  
2. The specimens are to be sent in the course of the first week in March, 1844, to a place of exhibition hereafter to be appointed.  
3. The specimens are required to be designed in general accordance with the style of decoration adopted in the New Palace. Outlines in Lithography, shewing the dimensions of the principal door of the House of Lords, may be obtained at the Architect's Office in New Palace Yard.

4. Each exhibitor is required to send one and not more than two designs for an entire door, drawn to the scale adopted in the outline, viz. two inches to a foot; and one carved panel, or part of a panel and frame-work, not exceeding four feet in the longest dimension, representing a part of such design in the full proportion. The objects forming the details of decoration, in conformity with the conditions above expressed, are left to the choice of each Artist. The material of the carved specimen is to be oak.  
5. The invitation to send works for the proposed exhibition is confined to British Artists, including foreigners who may have resided ten years or upwards in the United Kingdom.  
6. Artists who propose to exhibit are required to signify their intention to the Secretary on or before the 1st of January, 1844.

By command of the Commissioners,

C. L. EASTLAKE, Secretary.

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Amongst the advantages of this new art, is the power of realising the most delicate and elaborate designs of the Artists with the most perfect fidelity, and also of executing their most complicated and rich designs at a price little beyond that of the plainest works.

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In this Establishment, open since the 1st instant, the Tuition of the Classics and Dead Languages is founded upon a new method, both scientific and didactic, in the combined power of which the Hamiltonian system is but one of the three levers, that jointly concur to its formation. With this new system the pupil will not (as it has been rashly asserted of the Hamiltonian by some reviewers) know in six weeks more than he otherwise could in two years, but as much as was hitherto done in two years he will do in five or six months; and will moreover learn simultaneously two or three Languages of Latin Europe more easily, shortly, and completely than he could before attain only one in the same time. The British Polyglot Lyceum is conducted by a gentleman who has passed a period of thirty years in honourable labours in the Universities of Paris and Madrid, in which his philological and historical works have caused him to be raised to high stations; and avers even to a shadow of exaggeration, he never will promise more than nature can afford—science, skill, and patience performed.

The Director will deliver, from the 24th inst., or soon after, at Willis's Rooms, a Series of Lectures on Compared Literature. The Prospectuses of both the Lectures and the Polyglot Lyceum, in which all the branches of a complete literary education for both sexes are taught, are distributed at all the principal Bookellers in Town. For further communications and particulars apply from Twelve to Six at the British Polyglot Lyceum.

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A Quarterly Periodical.

Conducted by Mr. CHARLES V. WALKER.

CONTENTS:

Translations of the Recent Papers by Karsten, Bunsen, De la Rive, Becquerel, and Matteucci, &c.—Original Communications.—Reviews.—Reports of Lectures delivered before the Royal Institution by Faraday, Grove, and Sturgeon.—Notices of New Experiments, &c.—Main's new Method of exciting Metals, and the recent Improvements in Electro-Telegraphs.—With other matter of interest.

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\*. All Communications, Books, &c. for Review, and Advertisements, to be sent to the Editor, care of Stewart and Murray, Green Arbour Court, Old Bailey.

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22 Ludgate Street, June 20, 1843.

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